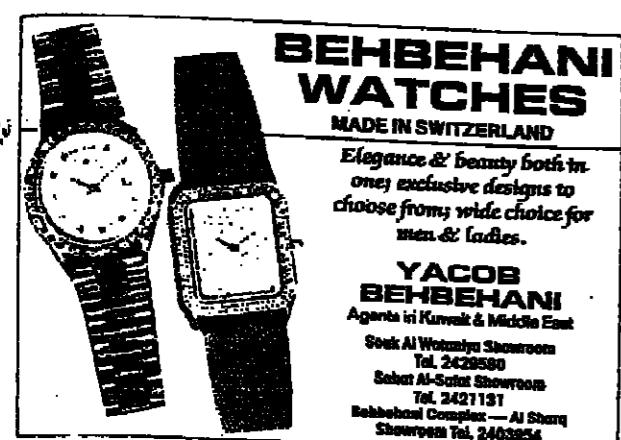


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Quake hits California, 272 crushed to death

Hundreds injured in 'concrete-sandwich'; aftershocks rumble

OAKLAND, California, Oct 18, (Agencies): Aftershocks rumble today as crews searched for motorists under an elevated highway collapsed by an earthquake that jolted northern California, killing more than 270 people and injuring hundreds.

The magnitude of the tremor, the second deadliest in US history, emerged slowly as officials made contact with hard-hit areas, where many telephones were cut off.

Last evening's quake, measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale, collapsed buildings across nearly 100 miles (160 kilometres), along with the San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge and at two spans in the Santa Cruz area 75 miles (120 kilometres) to the south.

Egypt, Libya to set up bureaus

Step towards ties

CAIRO, Oct 18, (Agencies): President Mubarak and Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi agreed yesterday on what appeared to be the first step toward resuming diplomatic relations.

The Middle East News Agency quoted Egyptian Information Minister Safwat El Sherif as saying that the two countries have "agreed to open a Bureau for the Libyan Jamahiriya in Cairo and a bureau for Egypt in Tripoli."

El-Sherif's one-sentence statement did not elaborate on the functions of such offices but indicated the two countries are dealing with the issue of resuming diplomatic relations with caution.

Libya calls its diplomatic missions abroad "people's bureaus."

The step, if it led to establishment of diplomatic relations, would be a big concession by Khaddafi who has been vowing he would not maintain a diplomatic mission in Egypt as long as it hosts an Israeli embassy.

Rajiv surprised the country yesterday by deciding that India's 500 million voters would elect a new lower house of Parliament on Nov 22 and 24, six weeks earlier than absolutely necessary.

Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Sikkim had already decided to hold simultaneous state polls and political sources said more states were expected to follow suit.

The opposition National Front alliance welcomed the decision to hold joint elections but it is certain to add to the political tension in the country.

Two states decide for joint polls

NEW DELHI, Oct 18, (Reuter): Two Indian states decided today to hold state assembly elections at the same time as national polls that could make or break Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous state which elects the highest number of members of Parliament, and the southern state of Karnataka joined three other states that have decided to hold joint elections.

Karnataka has been under direct rule from New Delhi for more than six months since the opposition state administration was dismissed by the Rajiv government after losing its majority.

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Final chapter

The man—the moment



Mubarak (left) and Khaddafi met in a tent in Tobruk. (Reuter wirephoto)

Pakistani bus blast kills eight, injures 30

ISLAMABAD, Oct 18, (Reuter): Eight people were killed and 30 wounded today by a powerful explosion in a bus in northwestern Pakistan, the official news agency APP said.

The bus was travelling in Punjab province between the towns of Wazirabad and Gujrat on the Grand Trunk Road linking Lahore, the provincial capital, and Islamabad.

It had set out from Sialkot, near the border with the Indian-held part of the disputed Himalayan state Kashmir.

It was not immediately clear whether the blast was

caused by a bomb or just an accident.

A series of unexplained bomb attacks in northern Pakistan has taken at least 19 lives since April. An earlier wave of attacks in 1987 and 1988 killed about 300 people.

Pakistani officials have in the past blamed agents of the Soviet-backed Afghan government, a charge denied in Kabul.

Most of the bombs during the summer were in Peshawar, northwest Pakistan, where Afghan rebels have their headquarters.

(Continued on Page 6)



Rescue workers aid an injured motorist from the damaged Interstate 880 freeway in Oakland, California.



Cars lie in a massive crack after part of the San Francisco Bay Bridge collapsed following the earthquake.



Passersby clear bricks and other rubble from atop parked cars searching for possible victims in San Francisco.



Graphic depicts the area around San Francisco where the earthquake struck.



Two firefighters walk away from a destroyed apartment. (Reuter wirephotos)

Quake a warning of a larger one, says USGS

WASHINGTON, Oct 18, (AP): The San Francisco earthquake today was "a good warning," the head of the US Geological Survey said.

"The question is not whether a big earthquake is coming. The question is when," said Dallas Peck, director of the service, in an interview.

Tuesday's quake was "not a trivial earthquake, but it was not a 1906 earthquake," Peck said.

The Survey's geologists estimated the magnitude of yesterday's tremor at anywhere from 6.2 to 6.9 on the Richter scale. The 1906 quake, in which some 500 people died, has been estimated at up to 8.3.

Yesterday's quake "is telling us we've got a lot to learn and to do better," strengthening buildings and other structures to withstand a major quake, Peck said.

In July 1988, a committee of experts convened by the geological survey was more worried about southern California than the San Francisco area.

The committee estimated that a major quake—one measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale—had a 50 per cent chance of occurring in the San Francisco area along the San Andreas Fault, which was involved in yesterday's shocks.

Commonwealth welcomes Pakistan – Page 2

Erich quits in GDR shake-up

BERLIN, Oct 18, (Agencies): Erich Honecker was replaced as Communist Party chief today, ending 18 years of iron-fisted rule as the government grapples with street protests and growing public demands for democracy.

State news media said the Communist Party leadership replaced the 77-year-old Honecker with Egon Krenz, a 52-year-old Politburo member in charge of security who is an orthodox party member with a reputation as a hardliner.

Two other key members of the ruling Politburo also lost their positions in the shakeup.

The government-run news agency ADN said Honecker asked to be relieved of his official duties for health reasons. Honecker has reportedly been in ill health following a gall bladder operation in August.

But the East German leader also had been under increasing pressure to resign after a wave of protests swept the country and pro-democracy movements picked up growing support.

Krenz said in a broadcast interview that he was taking over the leadership at a difficult time for the nation.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said the choice of Krenz was a prompt reaction to current demands for renewal and French President Francois Mitterrand said Honecker's departure heralded fundamental changes in East Germany.

US President George Bush said it was too early to say if the change would mean more openness in East Germany while West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Krenz would be judged by whether he brought in reforms or merely defended the communists' hold on power.

In an interview with East German television and carried by West Germany's ARD television network, Krenz said, "I realise this is a difficult task that I have taken over."

"In this very complicated time there is much work before us. Work, work and more work—but this is work that we should undertake gladly in order to improve the situation for everyone," he said.

Despite Krenz' reputation for communist orthodoxy, party sources said he decided to call on police to stop beating pro-democracy demonstrators earlier this month in East Berlin and Dresden.

Relieved

Politburo member Joachim Herrmann, 60, who was in charge of the nation's media, and Guenter Mittag, 63, the architect of East Germany's economic policy, "were relieved of their functions," ADN reported.

It said both men had lost their posts on the central committee and the Politburo, and that Mittag will be relieved of his duties as deputy head of state.

The leadership shakeup has viewed in some quarters as an attempt to placate growing public demands for a freer press and economic reforms.

The demonstrations calling for reform have been the largest in the nation's 40-year history, and followed an exodus of tens of thousands of the nation's citizens that already has caused serious economic problems.

However, Communist Party leaders have made clear they will resist pro-democracy movements like those under way in Warsaw Pact allies Poland and Hungary.

Honecker, who directed the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961, will also be relieved of his largely ceremonial post as head of state and his position as chief of the nation's military, ADN said.



Egon Krenz... new leader

Lankan army to fill vacuum

Total Indian pullout by Oct 25

COLOMBO, Oct 18, (Kuna): Indian troops have begun to pull out from the eastern province of Sri Lanka and for the first time under the Sept 18 joint communiqué between the two countries. The vacuum created by the departing Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) will be filled by the Lankan police and the army, Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said today.

The minister, briefing the press, said the Indian authorities had assured the withdrawal process will be completed by Oct 25 and more than 5,000 Indian soldiers will return home.

Since July 29, which marked the second anniversary of the Indo-Lanka peace accord, some 2,000 Indians had left, and about 40,000 troops still remain in Sri Lanka but the Lankan police or the army were not deployed to substitute the Indians who were pulled out, military sources said.

Wijeratne said that at least 100 policemen will be deployed each to the 52 police stations in the north and east and additional strength, if needed, would be drawn from the Civil Volunteer Force (CVF) numbering about 1,500 raised by the north east

Polls may spark riots in India

NEW DELHI, Oct 18, (Reuters): Nearly 50 people have died in India in the past few weeks in Hindu-Muslim violence that could worsen in the coming election campaign.

Tension which has been rising across a wide swathe of India, from Gujarat in the west to Uttar Pradesh in the north, could reach flashpoint next month before national elections on Nov 22 and 24.

The focus of the violence is the town of Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh where Hindus and Muslims are locked in a bitter dispute over a shrine both communities claim.

Hindu militants plan to start building a new shrine close to the old on Nov 9, which is sure to inflame the Muslim minority whose vote could be crucial in a number of seats.

"Even as the flames of communal passion are being systematically stoked with an eye to the elections, a great deal of posturing by politicians is taking place," the respected Times of India newspaper said in an editorial.

"It is apparent that many (politicians) are covertly inciting or at least turning a blind eye towards the agents provocateurs of communal violence."

Rajni Kothari of the Independent Centre for the Study of Developing Societies said it was clear that politicians were using the communal tensions for political purposes.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party, accused by the opposition of involvement in a massive corruption scandal, has to retain its traditional Muslim voters, she said.

One in eight of India's 800 million people are Muslims and their vote is crucial in parts of the northern Hindi-speaking belt where nearly half the lower house seats are decided.

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Top Filipino radio executive shot dead

Cory expresses great concern

MANILA, Oct 18, (AP): President Corazon Aquino expressed "great concern and sadness" today over the assassination of a radio executive in the central Philippines, saying it was a violation of human rights and an attack on press freedom.

Rino Arcones, area manager of Dyfm radio in Iloilo, was shot near his home yesterday by two unidentified assassins with 45-calibre pistols as he was waiting for a ride to work.

Itolo is about 290 miles (465 kms) southeast of Manila.

"The treacherous attack on the hard-hitting radio personality was

not only a violation of his human right to live and practice his profession peacefully. It was an affront to press freedom," Aquino said in a statement.

"I condole with his grieving family. May they find solace in the thought he died in the line of duty to protect and preserve our democratic system," she said.

Police said there were no leads to the killers, although they blamed it on communist assassins, said Angelo Palmones of station Dzxi in Manila, an affiliate of Dyfm.

Benazir applauded at Chogm

Pakistan back to fold

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 18, (Agencies): The Commonwealth welcomed Pakistan enthusiastically back to the fold today after 17 years absence.

"This is a very special day for the Commonwealth," Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney told the biennial summit (Chogm) of the 49-member organisation that grew out of Britain's former empire.

"Your presence here is a major symbol of support for those of us who believe in freedom and tolerance," he told Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to loud and sustained applause from Commonwealth leaders and their delegations.

Host Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Malaysia was applauded loudly earlier when he said in his opening address: "Pakistan's return to this family of nations will no doubt enrich our discussion and help strengthen Commonwealth collective action."

Benazir, clad in bright Islamic green, was the main focus of attention from the moment she arrived at the conference hall. There was a spontaneous gasp and applause from those inside

as closed-circuit television showed her arrival.

Her speech, one of six at the opening session, won more applause than others despite being less in substance.

Benazir, whose father led Pakistan out of the Commonwealth in 1972 when it recognised the independence of Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, said it was a great honour to lead her country back.

"Indeed we are grateful to all the members of the Commonwealth who have unanimously welcomed us back," she said.

She called on rich nations to open their markets to Third World countries wracked by poverty and debt.

"The poorer countries need help and assistance" to balance environmental protection with economic development, Benazir told the 2,000 delegates attending the meeting.

The 36-year-old Benazir, called for a long term and self-sustaining strategy to ease the ravishes of restrictive tariffs on debt-ridden nations.

"The economic problems of development are of such magnitude that mere periodic

infusions of aid cannot resolve them, she said.

She received a particularly warm reception from Commonwealth general-secretary Sridath Ramphal.

"What a great joy it is to have the democratically elected leader of Pakistan welcomed back in the family of the Commonwealth," Ramphal said.

As chairperson of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation, Benazir said she felt a "special responsibility" to promote peace.

She praised moves to turn war-torn Cambodia into a democracy following the pullout of Vietnamese troops. "It is now for them (the Cambodians) to decide their own future democratically free from outside interference," she said.

Benazir said today the situation in the Middle East continued to cause concern while initiatives which gave rise to hope had so far run into Israeli intransigence.

"This is the major obstacle in the way of removing underlying tensions and might open the possibility of further conflict," she said.

Shuttle Atlantis finally lifts off

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, Oct 18, (UPI): The crew of the shuttle Atlantis rocketed toward space today on a long-awaited, five-day flight to fire the \$1.4 billion nuclear-powered Galileo probe on a six-year voyage to Jupiter.

The \$2 billion spaceplane thundered to life at 12:54 am (1654 GMT) — one day after rain showers forced a delay — and vaulted away despite the protests of anti-nuclear activists who claimed Galileo's nuclear generators could leak plutonium in a disaster.

Liftoff came four minutes late because of bad weather at an emergency landing site in Africa. Unlike yesterday, when liftoff was cancelled due to rain at the Kennedy Space Centre, conditions were acceptable for launch today.

With commander Donald Williams, 47, and co-pilot Michel McCulley, 46, at the controls, Atlantis streaked majestically skyward atop twin pillars of flame, thrilling thousands of spectators as the ship's two 14-storey solid-fuel boosters roared over the launch site.

Williams, McCulley, flight engineer Franklin Chang-Diaz, 39, Shannon Lucid, 46, and Ellen Baker, 36, planned to launch the Galileo spacecraft six hours and 22 minutes after liftoff.

Atlantis is scheduled to land Monday at Edwards Air Force Base, California.

Launch of the sixth post-Challenger mission originally was scheduled for Oct 12 but work to replace a faulty main engine computer delayed the mission until yesterday, when rain near the shuttle's emergency runway forced another slip.

Delay in second day of British-Argentina talks

MADRID, Spain, Oct 18, (AP): The start of the second day of talks aimed at restoring ties between Argentina and Britain severed during their 1982 war over the Falkland Islands was delayed today as delegation chiefs met separately, then withdrew to work out details with their respective teams.

"I had a meeting with my colleague at 9:30, and needless to say, we'll change our schedules according to what seems best to

us," British delegation chief and United Nations Ambassador Crispin Tickell said before the second day's session got underway at 11:30 am (1030 GMT) at the Argentine Embassy residence.

Tickell said he and his counterpart Argentine roving Ambassador Lucio Garcia Del Solar would present a communiqué tomorrow on the results of the first round of formal talks between the two nations since the

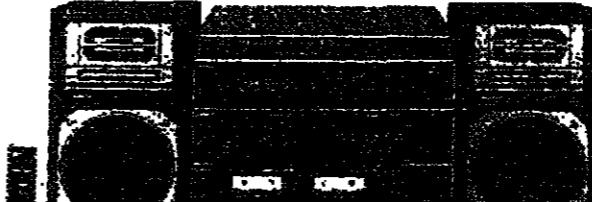
end of the 74-day war over the British colony in the South Atlantic that claimed nearly 1,000 lives.

Neither side would comment on the agenda, but it was believed the first stumbling block was the working out of a protocol under which both countries would agree that any outcome of the talks would not affect their claims of sovereignty over the 200-odd wind-swept islands.

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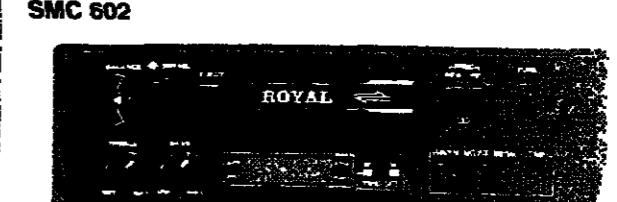
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PEOPLE AND PLACES

WASHINGTON: US lawmakers on Tuesday approved a bill giving permanent resident status to registered nurses who would otherwise be forced to return to their native countries.

The bill, approved by voice vote and sent to the Senate, would exempt the nurses, including thousands from the Philippines, from the ceilings on visa allotments because of the current shortage of nurses in the United States. (AP)

FRESNO, California: A 14-year-old boy using a \$200 home computer broke into a bank's credit accounts, illegally bought thousands of dollars of mail-order merchandise and shared his ill-gotten data with hackers nation-wide, police said on Tuesday.

The boy, who was unidentified, broke Clifford's access codes in August and used them in his purchase scheme. (UPI)

NEW YORK: Possibly the most valuable collection of art ever to come to auction — estimated as high as \$130 million — went on Tuesday's block on Wednesday night.

The private collection of paintings by Matisse, Picasso, Van Gogh, Pissarro, Renoir, and Degas among others belonged to Campbell Soup heir John Dorrance Jr., who died last April. (UPI)

WARSZAWA, Poland: Poles paid homage to their beloved native composer Frederic Chopin on Tuesday on the 140th anniversary of his death with a performance of Mozart's requiem in the church

Breast cancer High BP: lesser risk

WASHINGTON, Oct 18, (Reuter): Women who experience high blood pressure during pregnancy have a 27 per cent less chance of contracting breast cancer, the researchers reported yesterday.

The researchers writing in the October 18 journal of the National Cancer Institute, said that risk reduction appeared linked to elevated levels of a foetal protein commonly found in the blood of pregnant women that surrounds the fetus in the womb.

In studies in rats, the protein, known as alpha-fetoprotein, is produced by the foetal liver and is also found in trace amount in the amniotic fluid that surrounds the fetus in the womb.

In studies in rats, the protein has previously been found to block oestrogen-stimulated growth of the uterus and to cause shrinkage in oestrogen-dependent breast cancers, the researchers said.

where the composer's heart was interred.

The gala concert in Holy Cross Church, near the academy where Chopin studied music and

performed as a pianist in his youth, was attended by high ranking

members of the government, leading Polish cultural figures and Roman Catholic primate Jozef Glemp (AP)

Reagan wonders: was it a setup?

WASHINGTON, Oct 18, (AP): Former President Ronald Reagan says he wonders now whether Iran-Contra affair during his second term in the White House wasn't "a setup, a sting operation, by the Iranians."

Reagan's latest comment on the most controversial foreign policy initiative of his eight years in office comes in a new book, "Speaking My Mind," published by Simon and Schuster.

The book is a collection of speeches, each preceded by a short essay containing Reagan's reflection on the subject or the occasion.

One of the speeches is his March 4, 1987, address after the release of a report on his administration's decision to sell arms to Iran while seeking Iranian help for the release of American hostages.

The Tower Commission, appointed by Reagan to look into the controversy, said his decision to sell arms to Iran "rewarded a regime that clearly supported terrorism and hostage-taking."

Reagan, in his speech, took responsibility for things that had "happened on my watch," but also said he "didn't ask enough about the specifics of the total Iran plan."

He has since said there are many aspects of the affair he still does not understand.

In his new remarks, the former president defended the initiative although he said that "something clearly went wrong with our original plan."

"I'm going to cover this more completely in my memoirs," he wrote, "but I get beside myself when I think that people believe I would actually trade arms for hostages."

"I did not see it as trading arms for hostages because we were dealing with Iranian intermediaries, not the kidnappers themselves," said Reagan. "I know it may be a fine line to most people, but it's what I believed then and what I still believe."

"I have to say that in looking back I wonder if this whole thing wasn't a setup, a sting operation, by the Iranians," said the former president. "Maybe we were conned into believing these were moderate Iranians seeking to reach out to the West, while in reality they were working directly for the Ayatollah just to get some arms. Who knows?"

The episode became known as the Iran-Contra affair because some of the sale proceeds were diverted to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua, whose fight against the country's leftist regime was strongly backed by Reagan.

Children sexually abused

ALLEGAN, Michigan, Oct 18, (UPI): A 13-year-old boy and his 15-year-old sister told a judge on Tuesday their mother forced them to have sex with various men several times a week over a two- to three-year period.

After hearing the children's testimony, Allegan district judge Harry Beach ordered their mother, Carolyn A. Wilson, 42, and co-defendant Amnette Sanford, 34, to stand trial on sex charges.

Wilson and Sanford, believed by authorities and their children to be half sisters and lovers, will be arraigned on Oct 20 on three counts each of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one each of third-degree criminal sexual conduct.

Wilson also faces an Oct 24 preliminary hearing on an additional count of child cruelty. Both women were held in the Allegan county jail in lieu of \$5,000 bonds.

Prosecutors said the women forced a boy and four girls, now from 9 to 15, and an 18-year-old mentally retarded girl to have sex with men from September 1983 until May 1983 when the children were placed in foster-care homes. Both women deny the charges.

Speaking barely above a whisper, Wilson's son, Michael, now 13, testified he was forced to have sex with various men up to three of four times a week when the family shared a rented home.

Michael said his mother and Sanford would go in a back room with the men. Then he and his sisters and three cousins would be instructed to line up, and one would be picked.

He said the men, all strangers to him, came to the house at all times of the day and night.

Judicial workers go on strike in Bogota

Protest colleague's murder

BOGOTA, Colombia, Oct 18, (AP): The country's judges went on strike to protest a colleague's assassination and gunmen claimed another life in the news industry, the eighth since Colombia launched its all-out war on cocaine barons.

An anonymous caller claiming to speak for drug traffickers took responsibility for yesterday's killing of Hector Jimenez Rodriguez, a federal appeals court judge in the cocaine trafficking centre of Medellin.

Hours later in Medellin, assassins gunned down radio journalist Diego Vargas Escobar in similar fashion. police said.

The slaying of Jimenez, 55, sparked a three-day strike by about 17,000 judicial workers, including most of Colombia's judges, to demand more protection from drug gangs.



A man attending an all night vigil in the Central Cathedral in support of the dialogue between FMLN and Arena government. (Reuter wire photo)

Debate over ban on CIA

Senators welcome clarification

WASHINGTON, Oct 18, (Reuter): Lawmakers say they welcome clarification of a US ban against assassinating foreign leaders but they dispute government suggestions that the ban might have prevented US help for the attempt in Panama two weeks ago.

Senate Intelligence Committee chairman David Boren said yesterday that he told President George Bush the committee would promptly consider any administration proposals to clarify that the ban does not necessarily prohibit US help for a coup because of the possibility of a foreign leader being killed.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said earlier in the day that Bush would not alter the assassination ban but did want to discuss the clarification with Congress.

"We're saying we're opposed to assassinations," Fitzwater said. "But there's a clarification needed on other kinds of activities, and we want to discuss it with the Congress."

Boren said he told Bush at a White House meeting last week that he agreed the assassination ban might be ambiguous.

But carrying a dispute that began shortly after the Oct 3 coup attempt, Boren and other senators challenged administration suggestions that the assassination ban might have prevented US help for the coup attempt against Panamanian strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

With the sort of thing you had in Panama, I don't think by the greatest stretch of the imagination should that be a consideration," Boren said.

Senators Sam Nunn, a Georgia Democrat and member of the committee, said the assassination ban was not relevant to the coup attempt in Panama because rebels did not plan to capture Noriega, much less assassinate him.

Bush's National Security Adviser, Brent Scowcroft, suggested on Oct 8 that the assassination ban had restricted Bush's handling of the coup attempt after Boren, Nunn and other senators accused Bush of being unprepared for the coup attempt after urging Panamanians to overthrow Noriega.

"The Congress, by its actions and demeanour, certainly leaned us against the kind of things they're now saying we should have done," Scowcroft said in a television interview.

Central Intelligence Agency Director William Webster agreed in a New York Times interview that the ban might not have applied to the Panama coup attempt but said more difficult situations must be addressed.

For example, he said US officials must know what to do when rebels ask assistance in overthrowing a clear despot but make clear he may be killed in the heat of battle.

The assassination ban was recommended by Congress and carried out with an executive order by former President Gerald Ford in 1976 after disclosure of plots by US agents to assassinate Cuban President Fidel Castro and other leaders.

Bush, at a news conference last week, signalled he wanted to see the restrictions relaxed.

"I want as broad a power as possible and I think under the constitution, the president has it," he said last Friday.

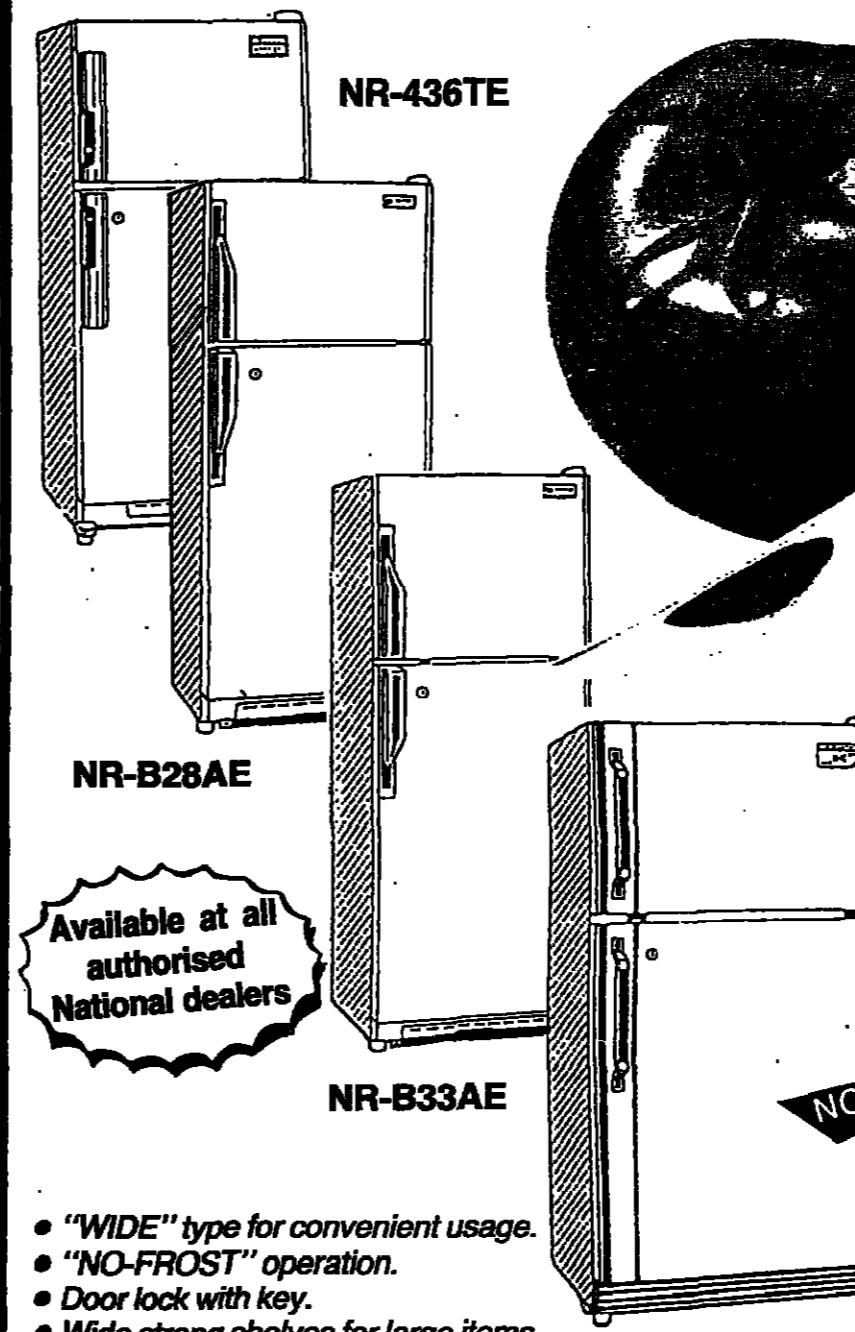
Bush said his powers were "broader than some in the Senate or House might think," noting that "I may have a difference with some on interpreting what the powers of the president might be."

Fitzwater said Bush shared Webster's concerns and confirmed his advisers were discussing the situation with congressional leaders.

"There is a wide variety of interpretations and issues to be discussed," Fitzwater said.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Headscarves

PARIS, Oct 18. (Reuter): French Education Minister Lionel Jospin, moving to stem controversy over the banning of Islamic headscarves in schools, yesterday said students cannot be expelled for wearing ethnic clothes.

"French schools must welcome all children. The wearing of a headscarf must not lead to their expulsion," Jospin said on television.

His statement follows the dismissal of three Muslim teen-age girls from a school north of Paris for wearing scarves, and the refusal this month by a Marseille headmaster to enrol a girl dressed in Islamic clothes.

Tank explodes

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, Oct 18. (AP): Three persons were killed and three injured when a storage tank containing toxic chemicals exploded yesterday, police said.

The storage tank, owned by Paktank and located in Rotterdam's Botlek port area 10 kilometeres (6 miles) from the city centre, exploded and caught fire at around 9.40 am (0840 GMT), according to police spokesman Hans Stoop.

The cause of the blast was not immediately known, he said. The victims, all of them members of a maintenance crew at work on the tank involved, were not identified pending notification of next of kin.

Deadly biscuits

JAKARTA, Oct 18. (Reuter): Indonesia ordered five factories to close because they baked poisonous biscuits that killed 36 children. Minister of Security and Political Affairs Sudomo said today.

The deadly biscuits, which were mistakenly made with toxic sodium nitrate, claimed their first victims in August. They were distributed nationally and killed children in both Java and Sumatra, Sudomo said.

Food poisoning

MOSCOW, Oct 18. (Reuter): More than 300 Moscow University students have fallen ill with food poisoning after eating liver at a university cafeteria, the communist youth daily Moskovsky Komsomolets reported yesterday.

It said analysis showed some of the 292 people taken to hospital had salmonella food poisoning. Others running high temperatures and complaining of stomach pains were being treated at home.

The campus cafeteria had been closed and staff members were undergoing medical checks, it said.

Lost touch

VATICAN CITY, Oct 18. (Reuter): Modern man appears to have lost touch with the meaning of life and death because of advances in genetic engineering, abortion and medicine, Pope John Paul II said yesterday.

"The church has a duty to help contemporary man recover the sense of life and death which in many cases today seems to be slipping away from him," he told a meeting of European bishops.

Farley dies

SARASOTA, Florida, Oct 18. (AP): Walter L. Farley, whose "Black stallion" books stirred the imaginations of millions of young readers and was the basis of an Academy award-winning movie, died after suffering a heart attack. He was 73.

Farley, who was admitted to Sarasota Memorial Hospital on Sunday, died Monday evening.

Hashish seized

ATHENS, Greece, Oct 18. (AP): Narcotics agents disguised as hunters raided a country house on the Island of Ikaria and uncovered 463 kilogrammes (1,019 pounds) of hashish. Three people were arrested, including a widowed grandmother, police said yesterday.

A police spokesman said that seven agents had been watching the home of Irene Megaloconomou, 75, on the outskirts of the village of Evdilos for two days before raiding it early on Monday morning.

The hashish, with a street value of about 250 million drachmas (\$1.47 million), was found under floorboards and in a store room, the officer said speaking on condition of anonymity.

Japanese tusk traders vow to fight ivory ban

TOKYO, Oct 18. (Reuter): Japanese ivory importers reacted with defiance today to an international conference's ban on ivory trading, and vowed a fight to save their 350-year-old industry.

The ban, decided by ballot at the 103-nation United Nations' Conference on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) in Switzerland yesterday, is intended to save African elephants from extinction.

It is also likely to administer a lethal blow to Japan's ivory industry unless Tokyo's government, which abstained from voting at the conference, decides to exclude itself from the ban.

Workers and union members in the industry said they would lobby the government to protect their interests.

"Of course this ban is a great nuisance," said an employee at one of the country's biggest tusk traders, Tatsuchi Ivory in Osaka.

"The industry will fight it. There will be talks with the government over this."

"We'll fight for our rights," said a worker at



Bridie Brennan (right) with her sister Ann McKennan celebrate the news that their brother Conlon is to be released from prison. (Reuter wirephoto)

Anglo-Irish talks

Tension eased

BELFAST, Oct 18. (Reuter): British and Irish ministers locked horns today over Dublin's demands for major reforms in a controversial Northern Ireland army regiment made up mostly of Protestant troops.

But the atmosphere at the talks was improved after Britain signalled yesterday it would free four alleged IRA supporters jailed in 1974 for English pub bombings that killed seven people.

Irish Foreign Minister Gerry Collins flew in by helicopter to Belfast's Stormont castle for his latest round of talks with Britain's Northern Ireland Minister Peter Brooke.

"I am expecting progress," Collins said as he headed into the talks.

Anglo-Irish relations have soured in the past two months over a widening security scandal that has angered Dublin and deeply embarrassed London.

A string of intelligence files on Irish Republican Army suspects went missing and authorities fear rogue British soldiers and policemen have leaked them to Protestant killer gangs fighting to keep the north British.

The British government said yesterday it will stop fighting the appeals of three men and a woman imprisoned for 14 years for IRA bombings aimed at British soldiers. The Irish government and civil libertarians cheered the move.

Sign of relief for Waldheim

UK report clears charges

VIENNA, Oct 18. (AP): Austrian President Kurt Waldheim expressed gratification at a British Ministry of Defence report clearing him of allegations of involvement in the execution of British prisoners of war in wartime Greece.

"The report fills me, of course, with great satisfaction," Waldheim said yesterday in an Austrian public television interview. He also expressed hope the report would improve his international standing.

The 117-page document said Waldheim could not be held responsible for the execution of the British prisoners of war, though he was probably aware of their fate. Six British commandos were captured in April 1944 and later executed by the German army.

Interpreting the report of the British government in a much wider sense, Waldheim said it "confirms my previous statements that I was not involved in any actions during the wartime which might substantiate a culpable conduct on my part."

Repeatedly Waldheim pointed out in the interview that the British investigation made clear he would not have ordered reprehensible acts as a junior

intelligence officer.

"The report also makes clear that I had such a low service rank that I had neither command power nor could I influence events in any way, that I could not prevent anything, such as reprisal actions and so on... that seems important to me," the president said.

Waldheim declared he also deemed important the conclusion in the report that knowledge of reprisal actions "is not a crime."

In the interview, Waldheim again denied the questioner's remark that he was internationally "rather isolated."

"I think I am in contact with the essential countries. What is more I know them (these countries) and their representatives" from his time as UN secretary-general, he stated.

"I am not a prophet, but I do believe that this result will have positive repercussions internationally," Waldheim said.

But earlier in the day, Neal Sher, head of the US Justice Department's office of special investigations, said in Washington that Waldheim was still banned from entering the United States.

Wonder drug for transplants

Stunning success

NEW YORK, Oct 18. (AP): An experimental drug that prevents the rejection of transplanted organs has shown stunning early success and is being touted as a wonder drug, according to a report published today.

The drug, FK-506, has produced fewer side effects than cyclosporine, the major anti-rejection drug now being used, and has proved more effective, the New York Times reported.

The new drug has reversed the rejection of transplanted livers in some patients taking cyclosporine, it said.

But the apparent success of the drug, derived from a fungus found in Japan, could worsen the already high shortage of donor organs because it would greatly increase the number of successful organ transplants, scientists said.

Some 30,000 organs are transplanted world-wide every year, a figure that is limited mainly by the shortage of organs, the report said.

The drug is made by the Fujisawa Pharmaceutical Company Ltd. of Osaka, Japan. It was developed by a team headed by Dr Thomas Strazl at the University of Pittsburgh, the world's largest transplant centre.

Aids on rise in US

WASHINGTON, Oct 18. (AP): There may be 14.5 million Americans infected with the Aids virus by the year 2002 unless stronger measures are taken to combat a growing epidemic, a conservative think tank predicts in what it calls "A dark view of the future."

The Hudson Institute released a report yesterday based on a 2-year study of the progress of the nation's fight against Aids and warned "a catastrophe is sweeping over America."

"Unchecked, Aids will kill more Americans in the next decade than have died in combat in all of the nation's wars since our founding," the study said.

Soviet human rights record better: Amnesty

Psychiatric body readmits Moscow

LONDON, Oct 18. (Agencies): The Soviet attitude to human rights has dramatically improved and most known political prisoners have been freed, but the picture is "deeply confusing" because abuses persist and oppressive laws are being enacted, Amnesty International says.

In a report published today, the worldwide human rights movement says its list of Soviet citizens imprisoned for nonviolent exercise of their human rights shrank from 600 three years ago to around 90 in July, and would have been lower but for further arrests.

An Amnesty International delegation was allowed into the Soviet Union for the first time last March and found that "the Soviet from psychiatric hospitals, including some who were held against their will for as many as 15 years, it said.

"Most of these 416 people were prosecuted for expressing non-conformist opinions, or for their religious activities. Some had been arrested for trying to leave the USSR," the report said.

"They make up the largest single group of prisoners of conscience to have been freed since the 1950s. Political arrests have also fallen noticeably since 1986," it said.

But "despite this clear trend towards reform," it said, "the human rights picture in the USSR is deeply confusing."

New decrees have been issued that curb human rights, it said, such as a ruling in April that effectively bans electioneering for radical change, and another in July restricting rights of assembly.

A new centrally controlled police force with extensive powers was set up in July 1988 under a decree that gives the authorities "unrestrained powers to ban or break up peaceful assemblies," it said. "On more than one occasion since July 1988 they have been used for this purpose."

The law on public gatherings is now available in writing and decisions on applications for public meetings have to be given five days in advance. But authorities may ban meetings as unconstitutional even where they pose no threat to public order, and there is no right of appeal, Amnesty International said.

There also have been fresh arrests, so that when the Amnesty International delegation visited Moscow it had a list of 100 detainees, including 25 conscientious objectors to military service, 25 people in psychiatric institutions, and about 30 imprisoned for nonviolent nationalist activity, the report said.

In Athens, the World Psychiatric Association conditionally readmitted the Soviet Union today, after a Soviet official acknowledged that psychiatry had been abused in his homeland for political reasons.

But the body said the official Soviet organisation could be ousted if an investigation finds that the Soviets still use psychiatry as a political weapon against dissidents.

■ The Soviet Union has accepted that its failure to clarify the fate of missing Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg has damaged its credibility on human rights, Amnesty report said.

■ Some Soviet journalists are threatening to strike over President Mikhail Gorbachev's rebuking of outspoken editors, and a group of legislators accused Gorbachev of using "pressure tactics."

The 125 refugees, mostly young workers with children, arrived at 8.30 pm (1930 GMT) on a Soviet-made Tupolev 154 chartered from LOT airlines by the West German government.

Descending the steps of the plane, they waved and smiled at a few photographers waiting in a drizzle, then were hustled onto buses for a 30-minute trip to the Schoepenning reception camp.

That camp has processed many of the 52,000 East Germans who have fled to the West in recent months.

A group of about 30 relatives, friends and well-wishers who had gathered at the airport was angered when they were prevented from going from the terminal to greet the new arrivals.

During earlier arrivals of East Germans from Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland in recent weeks, the public was generally free to greet the new comers first hand. Authorities at Dusseldorf Airport said, however, that they wanted to get the new arrivals to the Schoepenning centre as quickly as possible.

Around 57,000 East Germans have crossed to the West through Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary since September 11, when Hungary opened its border with Austria, West German border police said today.

This is in addition to more than 80,000 who have emigrated legally since January.

Psychiatric body readmits Moscow

perspective on human rights has shifted dramatically since 1986," the report said.

"The most promising prospect for long-term reform is a major review of law... apparently aimed at bringing Soviet law into line with international standards," the report said.

For the first time, human rights were being freely discussed and acknowledged by the authorities to be an international issue, not an internal matter immune from outside scrutiny, the report said.

Of the 600 prisoners, 337 were released early. Another 79 were freed

Hungary becomes republic state

BUDAPEST, Oct 18. (Agencies): The Hungarian Parliament today approved a constitution that will provide the bedrock for a state based on Western democratic principles by replacing a Stalinist constitution adopted in 1949 on the Soviet model.

The amended constitution—which left no more than 10 per cent of the original text untouched—declares that Hungary is a republic and no longer a "dictatorship of the proletariat" led by a single, Communist Party.

In a major address to Parliament, Justice Minister Kalman Kulcsar noted the more than 70 amendments far surpassed the original aims of the government, which had set less ambitious goals earlier this year.

"This is a major and historic step towards Hungary's transformation into a parliamentary democracy," he said.

The word "socialist"—which officials have often used to describe Hungary's new democracy in past months—was conspicuously absent.

The amended constitution, which is to steer Hungary through a period of political transformation from one-party rule to a multiparty democracy, outlines a modern, ideologically neutral political system.

It upholds both public and private property by granting them equal treatment—a major economic prerequisite to the move toward a market-style economy.

It leaves no place for the presidential council, which has often circumvented Parliament in the past. Its members have already resigned, and the council will be replaced by the institution of president of the republic.

An opposition group called the Alliance of Free Democrats and the Young Democrats, known by their acronym Fidesz, refused to sign an agreement between opposition groups and the government last month agreeing to the election procedure and other political issues.

The proposed date for the presidential election is Nov 26, when the Free Democrats and Fidesz claim is not enough time for the 90-day election campaign outlined under the original agreement.

One of the amendments states that "political parties may be freely established and may freely function providing that they respect the constitution and the laws."

Another declares that the "leading role of the Marxist-Leninist party of the working class... has been outdated."

US to go on making chem arms

WASHINGTON, Oct 18. (AP): A top US arms control official says the Bush administration is "looking after the national security of the United States" by deciding to make new chemical weapons while it seeks an international ban on the deadly weapons.

"It is not good to cut programmes in anticipation of negotiations—that undercuts your negotiation leverage, it undercut your security," Ronald Lehman, head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, told reporters yesterday.

Lehman said the key to US elimination of its older chemical weapons is to get other nations to eliminate theirs, "and until they are committed to such a thing, we will have a stock, albeit a very small stock."

■ Nato and the Warsaw Pact have agreed on a definition of artillery, an important move forward in the current talks on conventional armed forces in Europe, diplomats reported yesterday.

The agreement was reached just two days before the talks, which started here in March, adjourn until Nov 9. The current third round of the negotiations began Sept 14.

While no details were known, one diplomat spoke of an important "psychological step" toward an overall accord in the talks to rid Europe of excess weaponry and manpower from the Atlantic to the Urals.

He said both alliances submitted a list of artillery systems they believed should be targeted for reduction.

The West has earlier proposed that each alliance should be limited

INTERNATIONAL

Thatcher versus the rest at summit

SA sanctions issue dominates

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 18. (Agencies): British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, standing alone again, came under heavy fire at the Commonwealth summit today over her opposition to sanctions against South Africa.

There was some pointed criticism from Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew over her refusal to give Hong Kong people an escape route when China takes over the British colony in 1997 and for seeking to renege on Vietnamese boat people forcibly.

"It's 4-1 against Mrs Thatcher," Lee said of her intense dislike of using sanctions to force South Africa to dismantle its apartheid system of racial segregation.

"But you also know she is not intimidated by numbers," he said of her forthright opposition to new



Tutu (left) yesterday paid a visit to Mpetha. (Reuter wirephoto)

ANC will not reject violence

Pressure must continue, Sisulu

SOWETO, Oct 18. (AP): Freed African National Congress leader Walter Sisulu said yesterday his organisation would not reject violence as a way to pressure the government into concessions that might lead to negotiations.

Sisulu, released on Sunday along with six other senior ANC leaders, said pressure by anti-apartheid groups locally and abroad compelled the government to free them unconditionally after lengthy prison terms.

The releases "were merely a reaction to the pressure of the world," Sisulu told foreign journalists in an interview at a church near his home in Soweto, the huge township outside Johannesburg.

Sisulu, 77, is the highest-ranking of the freed activists. He spent 26 years in prison along with his close friend, senior ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

President F.W. de Klerk decided to release the prisoners as part of his effort to improve the climate for negotiating a new constitution that will include the 28 million black majority. He envisions a system that stops short of black majority rule and ensures that white interests cannot be overruled.

The government has said the ANC must renounce violence before it can be allowed to participate in the talks, but Sisulu said he believes the ANC should pursue violence to maintain pressure on the government.

"We don't reject violence," said Sisulu. "It's not because (the ANC) believes in violence for its own sake. It is because of compelling conditions. Remove the compelling conditions and there will be peace."

Sisulu denied that the ANC had partially suspended its campaign of violence, suggesting it was a "logical" decision.

He also called for an intensification of economic sanctions against South Africa.

"The pressure must be sustained," he said. "There must be no chance for the government to retreat and reorganise."

He said the ANC and its backers would not accept anything short of a one-person, one-vote.

"Democracy—I know it to be only one thing. A vote for all. There is no other democracy," said Sisulu. "We have got fundamental differences on that with the government."

Asked about changes in South Africa since he went to prison, Sisulu said: "I find the spirit of the people different. I think there is much greater political consciousness, greater awareness, greater unity."

The cabinet minister assigned to promote negotiations with black leaders said he was prepared to confer with Sisulu about the ANC's possible role in formal talks.

"If we want to get going, the fewer preconditions the better," said Constitutional Development minister Gerrit Viljoen.

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Benazir (left) and Thatcher arrive at the second session of the summit. (Reuter wirephoto)

China tightens screw on HK

UK criticised

HONG KONG, Oct 18. (Agencies): China stepped up pressure on the British colony of Hong Kong today, blasting the government for its decision to relocate a key navy base before Beijing resumes sovereignty in 1997.

In the fourth attack on the colony in little more than a week, senior Hong Kong-based diplomat Ke Zaihao told the official New China News Agency that the government had no right to move HMS Tamar, on the waterfront in the heart of the central business district, without China's agreement.

Chinese leaders have been pressuring the pro-democracy movement, when PLA troops and tanks stormed Beijing on June 4, sent shock waves through Hong Kong.

The subsequent emergence of hardliners in control in Beijing and their increasingly tough stance toward Hong Kong have dealt a series of hard blows to confidence in the colony.

London has urged Beijing to reconsider the psychological impact of stationing PLA troops in Hong Kong after 1997.

It is the Chinese side's persistent stand that the above-mentioned issue should be settled through discussions by the Sino-British joint liaison group, he said.

In the past few days, China has accused Hong Kong of acting as a base for subversion, angrily attacked the authorities for permitting dissident swimmer Yang Yang to flee to the United States and delivered two stinging rebukes over the decision to

allow the Chinese side's persistent stand that the above-mentioned issue should be settled through discussions by the Sino-British joint liaison group, he said.

Thatcher, speaking first in a debate on global affairs, said it was important to support and encourage peaceful change in South Africa.

Speaking after Thatcher, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said De Klerk should be given a breathing space to see how far he would go in dismantling apartheid before deciding whether further sanctions were needed.

In her 30-minute review of world affairs, Thatcher said moves towards democracy in Hungary and Poland, reforms in the Soviet Union and the exodus from East Germany showed "communism as a creed has failed and is discredited."

Meanwhile, anti-apartheid activist Allan Boesak attacked Britain today for opposing sanctions and said he had urged Commonwealth leaders to keep up pressure on South Africa.

The African National Congress yesterday urged the Commonwealth to impose additional sanctions against South Africa and said it plans to switch from hit-and-run attacks to a "tamed armed struggle."

"It is very important ... to pay attention to the question of building up the military capacity to conduct a sustained armed struggle—not merely to carry out an operation once in a while, however spectacular," said ANC spokesman Thabo Mbeki.

STUDY IN BRITAIN

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ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19-20, 1989

NEWS IN BRIEF

Reservations voiced: Several delegations expressed reservations yesterday about the credentials of the Cambodian and Afghan delegations to the United Nations but did not press for a vote on the issue before they were approved together with those of other member states.

When a report of the credentials committee was discussed in the General Assembly, Byelorussia speaking also on behalf of other members of the Soviet bloc, said it opposed acceptance of the credentials of "so-called democratic Kampuchea." (Reuter)

Bhargava replaces Ahasan: India's Kant Kishore Bhargava took office yesterday as secretary-general of the 7-nation South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation, the Kathmandu-based Saarc reported.

Bhargava replaced Abul Ahsan from Bangladesh, who is expected to become his country's foreign secretary, diplomatic sources told United Press International. (UPI)

Lee ponders: Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew has said his main problem now is how to hand over (power) next year without any glitches, in upsets and Singapore carries on as it is."

The world's longest serving prime minister made the statement in an interview with visiting Malaysian newsmen over the weekend.

Lee said that he would not retire from politics even after he steps aside. SSI may still be useful on matters which require a personal approach, he told them. (Kuna)

Ban on paper lifted: Kenya's parliament yesterday unanimously voted to lift a ban prohibiting prominent newspaper reporting its proceedings.

The ban was imposed in June after parliamentarians accused nation newspapers, publisher of East Africa's daily Nation, of being unpatriotic and campaigning against the government. (Reuter)

Coptic Pope visits Florida: The Coptic Pope laid a cornerstone for a new church in central Florida, then sat down to a meal of chicken and rice with church members.

"It is a very exciting thing," said Wasfy Mikhail, a church board member who has had his life in Egypt, said at Monday's luncheon.

"Back home, to meet the pop is a very difficult time because it belongs to several million people. When he comes here the 30 families can have captive audience with him." (AP)

Abortion issue haunts Bush: A report that the Bush White House used an anti-abortion litmus test to screen a candidate for a senior government health post has sent shockwaves through the Washington science community.

Despite white house denials that such a test was applied, administration critics are saying the divisive abortion issue is driving highly qualified candidates out of government service. (Reuter)

Italy raises speed limits: Italy's speed-loving drivers finally got the go-ahead to put their foot down a little more on Wednesday when higher motorway speed limits took effect.

But Public Works Minister Giovanni Prandini called for maximum vigilance by police to enforce the new restrictions, which allow all but the smallest vehicles to travel at up to 130 km per hour (80 mph). (Reuter)

Father son face charges: A father and son accused of helping run the smuggling ring cracked in the world's largest cocaine seizure have been ordered to return to Los Angeles and face charges in federal court.

US magistrate Lawrence Levitt ruled yesterday that there was a "clear showing" of probable cause that Carlos Tapia Ponce and his son, Hector Tapia Anchonda, were involved in the drug ring that led to the warehouse seizure last month of 19 tonnes of cocaine. (AP)

Roh to continue political reform

WASHINGTON, Oct 18. (AP): South Korean President Roh Tae Woo is assuring the United States his country is moving toward "full-fledged democracy" and more trade liberalisation.

But he asked US officials in meetings yesterday to be patient for the solution of one of the thorniest of US-Korean trade problems, the further opening of the Korean market to American meat and farm products.

Bush told Roh at their White House meeting that US military forces would remain in South Korea so long as it remains under threat from neighbour North Korea, which has not yet felt the winds of reform sweeping much of the communist world.

Roh was concluding his two-day Washington visit today with speeches to a joint meeting of Congress and to the National Press Club.

He and his wife were flying to Los Angeles later to greet former president Ronald Reagan and to address the Los Angeles World Affairs Council Thursday.

"Let no one doubt that the United States stands by its commitment to maintain the peace and prevent the outbreak of hostilities" in Korea, Bush said. In a ceremony concluding their 2 hours of White House talks and luncheon, he also praised Roh for "creative diplomacy" in proposing to create a commonwealth between North and South Korea "as a step toward reunification."

"Our forces will remain as long as there is a threat from the north," Bush said.

The United States has about 43,000 troops in South Korea.

US military to make more use of Singapore

SINGAPORE, Oct 18. (AP): US warships and military planes will make modestly greater use of facilities in Singapore, the Foreign Ministry said today.

Under an agreement between the two sides, the ministry said: "There will be more use of Singapore's maintenance and repair facilities by US naval vessels and short-term visits on a rotational basis of US aircraft to Paya Lebar Air Base."

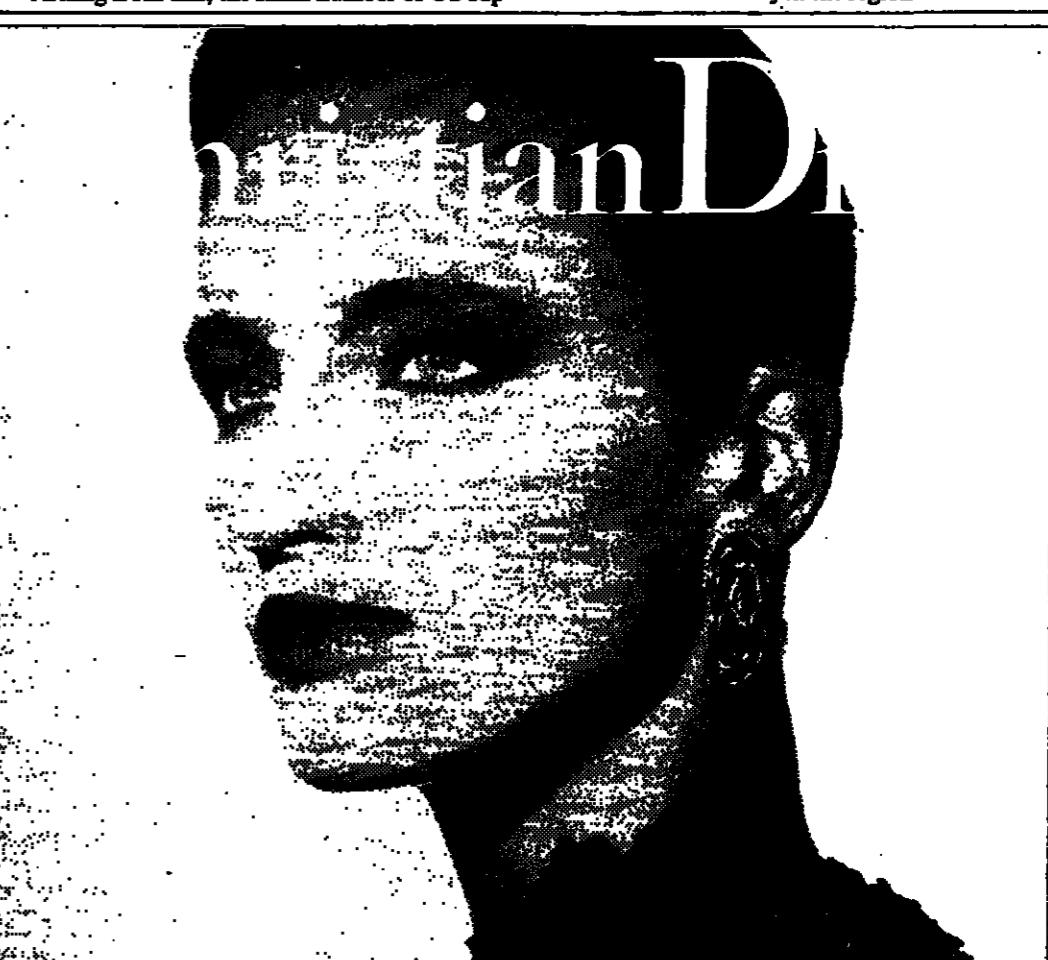
The increase would be modest and would begin early next year, the ministry said in a statement.

"Arising from this, the small number of US sup-

port personnel at present in Singapore will in due course increase to about 170," the statement added.

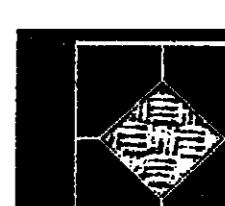
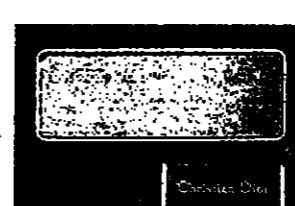
On Aug 4, George Yeo, state minister for finance and foreign affairs, told parliament that a US survey team had visited Singapore in June to study the nation's naval and air facilities.

Singapore's expressed willingness to play host to the US military brought statements from leaders of neighbouring Malaysia that a permanent US base in Singapore would harm efforts by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to create a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in the region.



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AUTUMN-WINTER COLLECTION



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Salimya	5721885	21-31	Deivah Co-op. Society	2488889	24
Al Ghurabaly Store, Ahmadi	3981929	21-31	Faces Exhibition	5746980	23-24
Sultan Center, Salimya	5719620/1..	21-31	Versailles, Salimya	5715906	24-25
" Fahaseel	3927228/9..	21-31	Shaq Co-op. Society	2445674	25
Samah Center, Hawalli	2661200..	21	Beauty Corner	2447890	25
Fayess Supermarket	5317202 Ext. 201..	21	Dahia Abdulla Salem Co-op.	2515224	26
Simsa Pharmacy	5714183..	21	Sahara Pharmacy	5711404..	26

Sideights

Re-insurance to cushion claims: British insurance firms said today they were shielded from huge claims from the San Francisco earthquake by simple prudence and re-insurance.

Officials in California estimated damage from yesterday's earthquake at \$1 billion, and in London stock in British insurers initially fell across the board.

But prices recovered as analysts reassured investors that the losses would be absorbed by re-insurance.

Insurance companies invariably pass on large risks to specialist re-insurance firms, ensuring that they are not exposed to giant losses. (Reuter)

Long way from predicting quake: The earthquake that hit San Francisco yesterday showed scientists are a long way from predicting them with any accuracy. It also highlighted how quake-resistant building techniques can save lives.

There was no advance warning of the major earthquake, despite almost constant monitoring by seismologists of the earth's crust along the San Andreas Fault Line, which runs through California.

"Earthquakes start at 10 to 15 km (six to nine miles) down and we really know less about physical conditions down there than we do about deep space," said Russ Evans of the British Geological Survey in Edinburgh, Scotland.

"As time goes by we realise how little we understand about processes going on in the earth's crust," he said. (Reuter)

Taking chances in San Francisco: San Francisco, one of America's most beautiful cities with its elegant seascapes and temperate climate, is also one of the deadliest with the unstable San Andreas fault running alongside it.

The fault is the greatest fracture anywhere in the earth's crust. Severe quakes have hit San Francisco as far back as 1869 and one in 1906 almost doomed the city.

Those who live in the city's splendour know they are taking their chances and it was no surprise when disaster hit again yesterday. A quake registering 6.9 on the Richter Scale collapsed a span of a major bridge crowded with rush hour traffic and forced the evacuation of nearly 50,000 people from the Baseball World Series Championship.

Buildings collapsed, gas explosions were set off and fires raged after the quake struck where nearly two million people live.

The quake, which hit this city known for its roller coaster streets and arched trolleybuses, was more than 30 times greater than the one that hit the Bay area in June 1988. That disturbance caused skyscrapers to sway and groceries to fall from supermarket shelves. (Reuter)

Quake victims offered condolences: The Commonwealth summit expressed condolences today to victims of the earthquake in San Francisco.

Malaysia Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad made the announcement as host of the 49-nation meeting of Britain and most of its former colonies. (AP)

Deukmejian promises probe: California Governor George Deukmejian said today he was "very surprised" by the extent of the highway damage during the devastating earthquake, and promised an inquiry.

Deukmejian said he had not yet spoken to US President George Bush, but said that state officials would ask Bush to declare a federal emergency for the stricken area in and around San Francisco.

The US government said California has a "prudent reserve" of \$1 billion that "we can use and that we will use" to help recover from yesterday's earthquake.

Deukmejian, during a hastily called news conference at a Frankfurt Hotel, also warned of the possibility of gas line explosions and said he had heard of "very minor incidents" of looting. (AP)

Tokyo better equipped: Tokyo, which like San Francisco is prone to major earthquakes, is better designed to cope with a quake of the size that struck the US city yesterday. Japanese government officials said.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu sent a letter to US President George Bush after the quake, saying, "as we ourselves are so vulnerable to this natural disaster, we view the fate of its victims much as that of our own."

"We are prepared to contribute to your efforts of emergency rescue and reconstruction as much as we can."

Construction Ministry officials said Japanese bridges and highways, designed to cope with strong shocks, would not collapse even in a big quake like the one that shook California. (Reuter)



A fire-fighter inspects the remains of a collapsed apartment building.



Picture shows the collapsed upper section of the San Francisco Bay Bridge.



An injured person is attended to by medics after a double deck section of Interstate 880 collapsed near downtown Oakland, California.



Rescue workers try to keep a car from going over the edge of the Bay Bridge.



Fire-fighters battle a blaze in the Marina district. (Reuter wirephotos)

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Kuwait International Hotel

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct 18. (Agencies): Thousands of stranded office workers mingled with the homeless in San Francisco's darkened streets night as a pitch-black night, a night of fear and festiveness, fell over the quake-damaged city.

Fire engines and ambulances, sirens howling, picked their way through the darkness and over glass-strewn streets as a few stars peeked through a layer of smoke from a fire raging in the Marina district.

Thousands jammed international phone lines, trying to get in touch with relatives in the area hit by yesterday's quake, which killed more than 270 people, flattened bridges and buildings and started fires in the San Francisco Bay area.

Offers of aid came from the Philippines, Japan, France, Britain, Switzerland and several other nations. An estimated 500,000 Filipinos live in the San Francisco area, one of the largest Filipino communities outside of the homeland.

"I would also like to extend my sympathy in a very special way to our countrymen residing in the area," President Corazon Aquino said in a statement. "They have our nation's collective prayers for their safety, and I am directing our Philippine consulate there to extend whatever help they can to them."

Concern in Japan, Hong Kong and the Philippines was heightened because of the large

numbers of their people living in California. Over 9,300 Japanese live in the San Francisco Bay area, an official said. The Philippine department of foreign affairs said at least 500,000 Filipinos live in the bay area, one of the largest concentrations of Filipinos in the United States. Hong Kong has strong links to the San Francisco area, which has an estimated 200,000 ethnic Chinese.

Gorbachev sent condolences in a telegram to US President George Bush, the Soviet news agency Tass said.

Yuri Dubin, the Soviet envoy to Washington, was assigned to contact the Bush administration to learn "what sort of aid could be given by the Soviet side, by government or social channels, towards liquidating the consequences of the earthquake," Tass reported.

If the Soviets do help the victim of an American quake, it would be a first. Millions of dollars of US assistance, along with aid from numerous other countries, poured into Armenia following the Dec 7 quake in the Soviet republic.

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A huge fire gutted a square block late yesterday. A nearby street was a montage of sirens, smoke, and helicopter search lights.

People clustered around phones trying to reach loved ones. Others played flashlight on buildings, revealing cracks and other damage. Pizza parlours and delicatessens operated by candlelight, with lines of people extending out the doorways.

Gangs of young people with baseball bats were seen roaming isolated San Francisco blacked-out streets, and there were reports of muggings. Hundreds of national guard and army troops were called in to deal with possible violence and looting.

The powerful quake was felt as far away as Fresno, about 120 miles away, said Gordon Finwall, 25, a lawyer in downtown San Jose, 40 miles southeast of San Francisco.

"People came running out of

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Celikbas to contest Ozal in elections

ANKARA, Oct 18. (AP): A Member of Parliament from the ruling Motherland Party announced today that he will run against Premier Turgut Ozal in the presidential race.

Fethi Celikbas, 77, told reporters that he was running because there should be more than one candidate in any democratic election. "It is not necessary to win," said Celikbas, a professor of economy and minister in previous governments.

Ozal announced yesterday that he would run for president and no other candidates were expected for the high prestige post.

There was no immediate comment from Ozal to the announcement.

Any Member of Parliament can run in the presidential race which is decided in secret balloting. For a non-member, a minimum of 90 Members of Parliament must give a motion of nomination.

The opposition parties strongly oppose Ozal's candidacy but so far they have not offered a candidate of their own.

Motherland Party sources said Celikbas could garner the votes of about two dozen deputies from the ruling party who are opposed to Ozal. It was not immediately clear if opposition parties would give him any support.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Typhoons and tornado kill 78: At least 78 people were killed and more than 1,000 wounded when three typhoons and a tornado struck Vietnam within 12 days this month, the official Vietnam News Agency said today.

The agency reported that typhoons Angela, Brian and Dan caused enormous damage to crops and buildings in the central provinces of Nghe Tinh, Quang Binh and Thanh Hoa between Oct 3 to 13.

It said the typhoons had killed 60 people, injured 73 and left an unspecified number of others missing, according to incomplete reports received from Vietnam Monday. (AP)

China executes 7 for murder: China has executed seven people, all of them for murder, in the western region of Qinghai, according to a newspaper reaching Beijing today.

The Qinghai Daily said Wang Wei, a peasant from Huanglong county, was found guilty of stabbing his wife and four of her relatives after an argument in June.

Wang and six others found guilty in separate incidents were executed late last month. Executions in China are usually carried out with a single bullet in the back of the head. (Reuter)

Hepburn visits Bangkok slum: Actress Audrey Hepburn observed life in Bangkok's largest slum today while on a mission to publicise the plight of starving, malnourished children of the developing world.

Ms Hepburn, who is representing the UN Children's Fund, also met with Prateep Ha, a determined champion of the dwellers of Klong Toey slum who is known as the "Slum Angel of Bangkok."

"I am full of admiration for this marvellous angel, as she is called. I've seen many of these people. They are the ones that make a big, big difference," Ms Hepburn said. (AP)

272 crushed to death

(Continued from Page 1) bridge. A 30-foot (10-metre) section of the bridge's upper roadway collapsed into the lower roadway, leaving three cars dangling between levels.

At least two bridges in the Santa Cruz area collapsed, highways leading out of the city were damaged and mountain passes were closed due to landslides and fissures in the road, the highway patrol said.

In San Francisco, at least eight people died, and looting and vandalism were reported in the city's major crack dealing area.

Agnos asked the army to help. National guardsmen were being mobilised, as were engineers, military police and medical workers.

"The city is in reasonably good shape," the mayor said. "We've survived this so far."

Sixty-thousand baseball fans were evacuated from Candlestick Park before the start of game three of baseball's World Series. No major injuries were reported at the stadium, which sustained structural damage, and there was no word on when and where the game would be played.

The Oakland airport and San Francisco International Airport closed yesterday but reopened this morning. San Jose International Airport never closed.

Iran embassy in Hague attacked

THE HAGUE, Oct 18. (AP): The Iranian embassy here was slightly damaged in an arson attack late last night, and police were questioning two suspects in the case, a law enforcement official said.

No one was injured in the incident, which occurred at about 10 pm local time (2100 GMT), hours after the embassy in central The Hague had closed its doors, according to police spokesman Guus

Auerbach.

The identities of the suspects, who were arrested shortly after police discovered that the embassy's front door was on fire, were not disclosed in line with Dutch judicial practice.

Witnesses told police that two men had doused the building's front door with petrol, set it afire, and then threw a fire bomb at one of the building's windows,

according to Auerbach. The nature of the bomb, which caused no damage, was not immediately known.

The men escaped on bicycles, Auerbach quoted the witnesses as saying. The embassy is located on a main thoroughfare in this diplomatic capital, 200 meters (yards) from police headquarters.

The municipal fire brigade arrived minutes later, dousing the flames before they

could cause substantial damage, Auerbach told the Associated Press. The interior of the three-storey building remained intact, he said.

Iran protested to the Dutch government today over an attack which it said damaged its embassy in the Hague on Monday, Iran's Isna news agency reported.

Unesco defers PLO entry

PARIS, Oct 18. (Reuter): A bid by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to join Unesco was deferred for two years yesterday in a move seen as placating the United States and Britain.

Member states of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation agreed to delay the PLO application until 1991. The resolution, passed without a vote despite Israeli objections, nevertheless called for increased Palestinian participation in Unesco.

Diplomats described the move as a conciliatory gesture by the agency's general conference, which opened yesterday. The Unesco executive board had already agreed to defer the PLO's request for two years.

They said the consensus decision was aimed at helping Director-General Federico Mayor attain his goal of convincing the United States, Britain and Singapore to return to the agency.

The three walked out in 1984 and 1985, accusing the agency of anti-Western bias and mismanagement and leaving it 30 per cent short of its budget.

The United States warned Mayor earlier this month it would never return if the state of Palestine was admitted.

The PLO proclaimed a state of Palestine last November and has since been seeking international recognition of it.

PLO observer Omar Massalha said the provisional government of Palestine had withdrawn its request because it wanted to avoid confrontation.

Mayor, in an apparent response to Western attacks against Unesco, pledged during his opening speech "to defend freedom of expression." He also said Unesco would not be used for political ends outside its constitutional mandate.

A debate on the so-called new world information and communication order, a controversial concept viewed by many Western states as an attempt to muzzle the press, is to take place in early November.

The scheme, proposed by former Unesco head Amadou Mbow of Senegal, could prove another obstacle to the return of the United States.

US, Israel heading for a major clash

We won't budge, vows Shamir

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, Oct 18. (Agencies): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has warned that Israel is heading for a major clash with the United States over Middle East peace moves and vowed Israel would never give up occupied Arab territory.

"It is not simple to go to a confrontation with the strongest state in the world. We are not interested in confrontations, but the United States must know Israel has issues it will stand firm on until the end.

"In all regarding the (biblical) land of Israel, we... will stand firm and not give in (even) if we must face a clash," Shamir said last night in the central town of Ramle.

US Secretary of State James Baker this month proposed a five-point framework for Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo on Israel's peace plan for elections in the occupied territories and other issues.

Washington said on Monday it did not view as a setback a statement by Shamir that Israel saw no need to go to Cairo for talks with Palestinians.

The hardline prime minister told his Likud party caucus yesterday that tension with Washington was Israel's most serious problem.

He accused the United States of putting pressure on Israel to talk to the PLO and to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where 686 Arabs and 42 Jews have died in the 22-month Palestinian revolt.

"The United States wants to get Israel out of Judea, Samaria (Biblical names for the West Bank) and the Gaza Strip. The Americans want to bring us already to a meeting with the PLO," Likud parliamentarians quoted Shamir as saying.

"It is hard to say what the position of the Americans will be. Will they back down as they did on previous occasions, in which case our relations will remain as they are, or will they refuse to give in, in which case our relations will change," Shamir said.

"We do not want a confrontation, but we will not give in. The campaign is hard and it is a miracle that we are still standing firm against the whole world," he said.

Shamir said PLO resistance to Palestinian-Israel peace plans strengthens the Jewish state's resolve to find an alternative negotiating partner.

Shamir told the English-language Jerusalem Post in an interview published today that the PLO opposition should "strengthen the Israeli government's resolve to pursue its own peace initiative, which is designed as an alternative to the PLO."



Israeli troops stop a Palestinian and carry out a thorough car search at a roadblock to the entrance of the Beit Sahour village. Residents of Beit Sahour have been refusing to pay taxes to the Israeli authorities, which has resulted in the confiscation of their goods as well as arrests. (Reuter wirephoto)

"Those who thought — there are Europeans and some Americans who think so — that our initiative would require us to sit and talk with the PLO were simply mistaken. They do not understand us," the paper quoted Shamir as saying.

"We want a peaceful solution. We want it both with the Arab states and with the Arabs of Judea, Samaria. But we cannot achieve it through talks with the PLO, because the PLO opposes it," Shamir said.

"The PLO wants a Palestinian state, and they do not want a Jewish state, even though they proclaim otherwise."

Shamir, worried over strains in US-Israel relations, told

Attempt on Mengistu's life denied

NICOSIA, Oct 18. (Reuter): Five hundred couples were married yesterday at a mass wedding ceremony in Tehran marking the eve of the anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), the Iranian news agency Isna reported.

Cyprus protests: Cyprus protested to the five permanent members of the UN Security Council today about plans to settle more ethnic Turks from Bulgaria in Turkey-occupied north Cyprus.

Government spokesman Akis Fanius said the protest was made directly at the United Nations in New York to the five members: Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States. (AP)

Libya denies airlifting: The official Libyan news agency yesterday denied claims by Somali rebels that Tripoli had supplied military equipment to the government in Somalia.

The Somali National Front, formed in 1981 to overthrow Somali President Siad Barre, said Monday that Libya had airlifted at least 700 pilots, tank and artillery crews and technicians to Somalia to help fight the rebels. (AP)

Turkey continues probe: Turkish police continued their probe yesterday into the bomb attack on a Saudi diplomat in Ankara, but found no immediate clues indicating that Islamic fundamentalist groups were responsible, officials said.

Abdurehman Shurei, a diplomat in the Saudi Arabian military attaché's office in Ankara had part of both legs blown off in the attack Monday, when a bomb exploded in his car as he was parking it after arriving at work. (UPI)

Tel Aviv-Moscow flights: The Israeli and Soviet national airline companies have reached a preliminary agreement for launching the first direct flights between Tel Aviv and Moscow, a spokesman for the Israeli airline El Al said today.

The mass-circulation Yediot Ahronot daily said an agreement was reached in Moscow earlier this week between El Al director Rafi Har-Lev and top officials of Aeroflot, the Soviet airline. No starting date for the flights was given.

Amnesty International seeks: Amnesty International has asked Jordan to provide information on the national conditions of detained members of a radical Palestinian commando group seized during a probe into the smuggling of weapons for attacks on Israel.

The London-based human rights organisation said in a statement received in Amman today it had asked Jordan about the arrest on October 4 of at least nine members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). (Reuter)

Jordan trying to halt attacks: Jordan has built up its border defences to combat a surge of rebel attacks on Israel, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday. (Reuter)

Palestinian adviser appointed: Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar appointed Francis Blanchard as his special adviser on economic development in the occupied Palestinian territories, his spokesman announced yesterday.

The seven, five Britons and two Sudan-

Soviets pour in aid to Kabul

WASHINGTON, Oct 18. (AP): Soviet military aid to Afghanistan has recently increased, say US sources.

The Soviets this month increased the proportion of arms in daily air cargo shipments to the Afghan capital of Kabul, according to a State Department cable obtained by the Associated Press.

Government sources, basing their calculations on cargo tonnage reported in the cable, said that monthly arms shipments rose to about \$400 million per month from the previous level of between \$250 million and 300 million a month.

US military aid to Afghanistan's mujahedeen rebels has been running at \$550 million to \$600 million per year, according to congressional sources, although the exact level of the covert US programme is classified.

The increase in Soviet military aid to Kabul was to be discussed at a Capitol Hill news conference yesterday by Sen. Gordon Hammill, a Republican, and Reps. Charles Wilson, a Democrat, and Don Ritter, a Republican.

The State Department cable said the Afghan and Soviet governments boosted the proportion of weapons in air cargo sent to Kabul from about two-thirds of the daily volume to about three-quarters.

The cable challenged Afghan government assertions that attacks by the mujahedeen were causing food shortages in the capital.

"The real cause of any shortages lies in the Kabul regime's decision to give higher priorities to weapons supplies than food," said the cable.

"Most observers believe that the regime is currently allocating over three-fourths of its cargo capacity to moving other cargo, principally munitions, including large supplies of weapons which serve no defensive purpose, such as Scud missiles," said the cable.

The report of increased arms shipments came the day after Secretary of State James Baker, in a speech in New York, said an earlier boost in Soviet arms deliveries had prolonged the fighting.

One administration analyst, however, said that calculating the exact tonnage and value of Soviet arms shipments to Kabul was very uncertain.

The increase in Soviet arms shipments, and problems among the rebels, who have fought among themselves, have prompted the United States to find new arms routes to the rebels, say congressional and White House sources.

The CIA, working through Pakistani intelligence, is sending new arms through seven resistance parties based in Pakistan, and channelling them instead to rebel commander who control the countryside and who increasingly are thought to hold the key to Afghanistan's future, according to the sources.

The Afghan government has sent a huge convoy to Khost in a major operation to resupply the eastern garrison town, which has been besieged by the rebels for the past two months, Western diplomatic sources said yesterday.

They also said troops of the pro-Moscow government have launched an offensive against rebels blocking the highway between Kabul and Jalalabad in a bid to reopen the road for supply convoys to the eastern city.

The Spanish government said that it had appealed to Afghanistan to release a detained Spanish writer but the letter probably arrived after he had received a five-year prison sentence.

UN halves water ration: The United Nations has almost halved water rations to 350,000 Somalis refugees in Ethiopia because of budget cuts, the UN refugee agency said today.

The Addis Ababa office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said it had cut the daily water supply at Hatiabek refugee camp in the arid Ogaden desert in eastern Ethiopia from 800,000 to 450,000 litres. (Reuter)

Byzantine ruins discovered: Byzantine ruins unearthed outside a main entrance to occupied Jerusalem's walled old city will be buried again under dirt and asphalt unless the city alters plans for a multi-million-dollar road.

The multi-lane highway is part of a mammoth project which will eradicate a large remnant of the no-man's-land which divided Jordanian occupied East Jerusalem from Israeli occupied West Jerusalem between 1948 and 1967.

Among the victims were a British couple and their two small children, whose relatives are Quakers opposed to the death penalty.

But contrary to a statement last month by an appeals court, the couple's relatives and the parents of a fifth British victim, a teacher for a relief agency, say they haven't agreed to pardon the bombers.

The seven, five Britons and two Sudan-

ese, died in May 1988 when an explosive device blew the roof off a Khartoum hotel dining room where the British victims and one of the Sudanese had just sat down for Sunday night dinner. The other Sudanese victim was a waiter.

Dinah Rolfe, whose son, daughter-in-law and two grandsons died in the blast, said in Britain that she and her husband Edward do not want the killer executed. But she added: "We don't think it's sensible to let them go free so that they can kill again."

The Palestinians were caught just after

Bashir gearing for war, says Garang

NAIROBI, Oct 18. (AP): Sudanese rebel leader John Garang has accused Sudan's government of preparing for fresh offensives against the southern guerrillas despite its talk of the possibility of a negotiated peace.

"These people want war. They are building up their armaments," Garang told a news conference. "They want peace at the barrel of a gun."

Sudan's government of Lt. Gen. Omar Al-Bashir, who seized power in a June 30 coup, and a delegation from Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army held their first round of peace talks Aug 19-20.

These discussions ended in stalemate, but Bashir has been quoted as saying a second round of talks is expected to start after a current government peace conference in Khartoum ends Oct 18.

Garang said he had not been notified of a second round of talks, but that his rebels were "sitting at the table" waiting for the government to join them in further peace discussions.

Garang ... they are building up

At issue now is a stipulation of Sudan's Islamic law, that came into effect with a recent appeals court order changing the assassination conviction to premeditated murder.

As Islamic law, does not deal with the political crime of assassination, that crime can be punished under the laws of man.

But sharia decrees that the family of a murder victim can decide whether the convicted person should be executed, made to pay restitution and be pardoned or be pardoned outright.

Sudan court asks families of victims to decide on death penalty

KHARTOUM, Oct 18. (AP): A Sudanese court is asking the families of seven victims of a terrorist gang's bomb to decide whether the five Palestinians live or die.

Among the victims were a British couple and their two small children, whose relatives are Quakers opposed to the death penalty.

But contrary to a statement last month by an appeals court, the couple's relatives and the parents of a fifth British victim, a teacher for a relief agency, say they haven't agreed to pardon the bombers.

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The Palestinians were caught just after

the bombing and a simultaneous machine gun attack on a nearby private club restricted to citizens of Commonwealth nations. They told investigators they were avenging the assassination, reportedly by Israeli intelligence agents, of Khalil El-Wazir, a close adviser to PLO chief Yasser Arafat.

The official Sudan news agency this week quoted a judiciary source as saying the court of appeal has asked the government to notify families of the victims to appear personally on Jan 3 and say whether they want the sentence carried out.

Kuwaitisation full steam ahead at MEW

Expats may apply for specialised jobs

KHALED Ibrahim Al Bdaiwi, director of the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW) said that the Kuwaitisation policy is of major concern to the MEW and this same level of commitment is also extended to the process by all government organisations.

The MEW has made considerable

progress towards achieving the aims of the Kuwaitisation process and is continually developing methodologies and strategies to achieve optimum results. The process is strongly linked to the time factor.

The MEW has a total of 11,063 employees, from which Kuwaitis represent a total of 2,225 employees.

Explaining the MEW's hiring policy, the official said that the ministry is considered an integral part of the government establishment and has direct links with the hiring policy implemented by the Civil Service Commission.

He disclosed that all administrative posts are open only to Kuwaitis. On

recruiting employees on contractual basis, Bdaiwi stated that the current policy stressed on obtaining these qualifications and expertise from the local market.

However, where specialised technical expertise is required and this is not available in the local market, non-Kuwaitis are permitted to apply, Bdaiwi said.

Private schools

No anti-Islamic activities: Sharrah

THE Ministry of Education (MOE) for private education exercises a high-level of control on Arab and foreign private schools in the country as they are subject to the laws related to private education issued in 1959, according to Dr Yacoub Al Sharrah, assistant under-secretary of the MOE.

According to the law, MOE has the right to close any private school that contradicts with traditions and values of Kuwaiti society. The headmaster of the private school is appointed by the ministry and is then representative. Accordingly, these headmasters at private schools receive their payments from the MOE and not from owners of private schools.

The official denied that some private schools undertake anti-Islamic activities among students and reiterated that the ministry takes strong cognisance of any missionary activity.

Supervisors and officials who follow-up on the educational procedures at the private schools are also appointed by the MOE. These schools all follow the curriculum stipulated by the ministry and are subject to follow its educational system. In this respect, there is no difference between government and private schools, the official said.

All financial accounts and procedures are supervised by officials from the ministry and all fees and charges are determined by the ministry. All prices of text books and other school requirements are stipulated by the ministry.

Prices

Commenting on the difference in prices of school uniforms, the official said that though the MOE does fix these prices, some schools insist on having quality clothing which does increase the prices a little. Tuitions at private schools in Kuwait are reasonable when compared to other countries.

Sharrah pointed out that the ministry also determines and ensures payment of teachers' salaries at all private schools. Any delay in payments is referred to administrative and legal investigations. The official recommended that teachers who do not get their full payments can complain to the ministry.

The MOE has its own special team of investigators and is vigilant to ensure that schools do not terminate the services of teachers at the end of the academic year and re-appoint them at the beginning of the year to avoid paying them the payments of the summer holidays or their end of service gratuities. This vigilance has paid rich dividends in dropping the level of such practices, Sharrah said.

The official further indicated that the ministry will prevent private schools from re-appointing those teachers who have been terminated. This rule will go into effect this year in order to end this form of cheating.

On the issue of problems at private schools, the official said that this is a universal issue.



Governor of the Capital planting a palm shrub

Capital celebrates green week

UNDER the auspices of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah, the Capital Governorate marked the occasion of afforestation week. The celebration ceremony was attended by the Governor of the Capital, Sheikh Jaber Al Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Governor of Hawalli Abdullaif Al Barjas, Sheikh Ahmed Jaber Al Abdullah, Sheikh

Abd Al Ali and Col. Ahmed Al Rujaih.

The Sociologists Society in Kuwait also sponsored a seminar on the occasion of the week.

Khalaf Al Shatti, head of the technical bureau for scenic agriculture said that the plan had been set up for greening and afforestation of the north areas of the country including Doha, Sulalibkhah and the northern islands. The plan also envisages the establishment of an entertainment facility.

Further, the authority is planning to develop public gardens and other facilities in the country in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Works and Kuwait Municipality. Another scheme for developing the scenic and environmental projects in Kuwait City is on the anvil.

Also speaking at the seminar, Dr Subhi Al Mawa from the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, said that Kuwait had achieved considerable progress in the construction field during the last three decades. These achievements were particularly noticeable in the housing and government utilities projects. However, the pace of agricultural development had not kept abreast with constructional development in general and scenic agriculture in particular.

The official did acknowledge that there are some climatic and natural obstacles in addition to the limited arable areas which hinder the expansion of agricultural projects. However, he said, efforts exerted towards the greening process in the country had not been given the same support as recorded to other Gulf countries.

In addition to the natural obstacles, such as lack of suitable water and the poor soil and arid conditions, the absence of legislations for protecting scenic agriculture and overlapping among duties of various authorities had also contributed to the lack of pace in developing this sector, the official said.

Transplant organs from dead

Health Ministry forms committees

THE Ministry of Public Health has set up individual committees at each hospital in the country to encourage and co-ordinate the collection of organs from dead persons to be used in transplant operations.

The committee consists of head of intensive care unit or head of anaesthesia section as well as a sociologist. The committee will co-ordinate with Hamed Al Essa Organs Transplant Centre.

Kuwait recently participated along with 28 other countries in a conference held in Canada to discuss various aspects of the organs transplant operations. The conference condemned trading in organs and tissues of human beings and termed such practices as immoral and illegal. The conference called on governments, professional establishments, hospitals and relevant educational institutions in the world to fight against the trade in organs and to encourage people to donate organs to save lives of patients.

The chairman of Hamed Al Essa Centre for Organs Transplant and head of organs trans-

plant department at Faculty of Medicine of Kuwait University Professor George Aboua stressed on the importance of these committees to ensure that the organs transplant project is a success. He hoped that the project will contribute to save lives of 260 patients presently suffering kidney failure.

Professor Aboua warned patients against getting treatment in some countries as India, Bangladesh, South America and Far East in which illegal ways are followed for trading in organs of human beings. He added that patients who went to these countries and had transplanted kidneys there returned to Kuwait Kidney Transplant Centre to get treatment from complications beside they also were infected by some endemic diseases like rabies, malaria and other dangerous diseases like Aids.

Aboua pointed out that the chairwoman of Human Rights Organisation raised the alarm against the spread of crime of stealing human organs and selling them in some countries like India, Bangladesh and South America during the Ottawa conference that was held recently.

He added that according to statistics of the Interior Ministry there are about 360 persons killed in road accidents every year (one case of death a day on average). The hospitals can benefit from organs of these victims

to save lives of patients who suffer from kidney, liver or pancreas failure. If the Ministry of Public Health succeeds to benefit from organs of 20 per cent of these victims after approval of their relatives, the local need for organ transplants will be met.

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Bahrain fast becoming major market for beauty products

By Yakub Razzaque
Arab Times staff

SINCE the seventies Bahrain has been experiencing the steady growth of a consumer industry for women focusing on products and technology based on their needs and desire to look beautiful. In this age of increasingly fashion, beauty and health conscious trends, particularly among women of affluent and middle classes everywhere, the sale of cosmetics for females of all ages is a multi-billion dollar business world-wide.

Traditionally Gulf women, because of religious, social and cultural norms used

little or no make-up. This trend of applying make-up on a large scale was followed basically by Western women because of a number of factors. Higher education, equal employment opportunities, greater income and independence of choice and the desire to look one's best in a 'Man's World' have driven generations of modern Western women to resort to various forms and brands of 'beauty products' to maintain their physique and look beautiful.

Ritual

For middle-aged women beauty products seem essential to look rejuvenated, while for the young career-oriented

ladies it has become a daily ritual to apply some sort of make-up before stepping out of the house.

Whatever the reasons, application of make-up is now taken for granted by women of all ages and nationalities. The illusion of looking young and beautiful, thanks to modern technology, has been indelibly embedded in the psyche of women all over whether it be a tribal lass in Africa, a bedouin housewife or a New York secretary.

A lot has happened since the days when Arab women in general and Gulf ladies in particular used often simple home-made cosmetics for their daily

beauty ritual. The advent of modernisation, oil wealth, greater economic freedom, higher standards of living and increasingly flexible and liberal outlook to life in Arab society have led the new generations of Arab women to emulate their Western sisters in using modern products for make-up.

Women in Bahrain were among the first in the Gulf to take to Westernised forms of make-up in a big way. Demand for Western beauty products has over the last few years created a lucrative cosmetics market on the island. Just about all the leading brand names of the world's famous beauty houses are available in the shops here at competitive prices. There are products for every feminine beauty requirement for the whole body.

Not surprisingly in keeping with the demand and constantly changing trends in the fashion world new products proliferate almost every day. Today most cosmetic products are accessible to female clientele, ranging from the up-market brands of top names to the inferior and economical products made in the Orient.

Bahrain has also seen an upsurge of beauty parlours operated by both national and expatriate entrepreneurs,

Kuwait denies Nicaragua military aid request report

KUWAIT, Oct 18. (KUNA): Kuwait has categorically denied today a report by the American CBS TV network that the Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has requested military assistance from Kuwait during his visit to the country early this week.

In a statement to Kuwaiti News Agency, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saudi Mohammad Al Ossaimi said that the report was "unfounded."

President Ortega yesterday wound up a three-day visit to Kuwait where he held talks with HH the Amir and senior Kuwaiti officials.

The minister said the talks President Ortega had in Kuwait covered, in addition to bilateral relations, exchange of viewpoints regarding various issues of interest to the Non-Aligned Movement's member states and centred on achieving peace in Central America and the Gulf Region in particular.

Plan reduces budget deficit to KD779m

Confidence in economy being restored

By Mahmoud Abedeen

THE implementation of the first five-year development plan has succeeded in its third year in reducing the deficit of the state budget from the projected KD1.3 billion to only KD779 million. Dr Abdul Hadi Al Awadi, undersecretary of the Planning Ministry and co-ordinator of the development plan

Continuing, he said the plan also greatly contributed to achieving a good level of economic stability. A number of monetary establishments and the Central Bank actively played a vital role in achieving this stability. Further, it also helped restore confidence in the capability of the economic administration of the country.

Thus, the greatest achievement of adopting a scientific, well defined development plan for Kuwait is the success in reducing the state budget deficit. This planning has also made it further possible not to depend upon reserves in bridging the state deficit budget.

The official announced that for the first time in Kuwait, planning has become a reality and we have surpassed the stage of preparing plans to implement

ation and follow up." He also added that the plan has succeeded in achieving an increase in production in some fields specially in sectors of oil and gas in addition to some agricultural sectors. Consequently, he added, that planning has become the method to manage society and guide its resources with the aim of achieving development goals.

Kuwait, through adopting a wise foreign investment policy, has succeeded to a great extent in isolating the fluctuations in the world stock markets from its foreign investments. Most of Kuwait's foreign investments are direct investments and the Kuwaiti private investments abroad are mostly in bonds, thus being subjected to less risks than that of shares.

Infrastructure

Awadi added that the five-year-plan, the first in Kuwait, has centred its projects on strengthening the infrastructure projects particularly in transportation, communications, roads, and ports and in social infrastructure services like education, health and housing. But the official admitted that not all the planned goals have been achieved and attributed most of this to external factors and conditions prevailing in world market.

Continuing, he said the plan also greatly contributed to achieving a good level of economic stability. A number of monetary establishments and the Central Bank actively played a vital role in achieving this stability. Further, it also helped restore confidence in the capability of the economic administration of the country.

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ets. He said that for example, re-export and transit trade was affected by the Gulf war, high charges on freight, transportation and insurance. The slow-paced execution of some construction projects, was also among the causes.

Asked about the failure of the plan to help in diversifying the sources of income as oil revenues still make 87 percent of Kuwait's revenues, Awadi said that such an objective is not usually achieved in one five-year plan. The conditions for achieving the diversification of income resources, suitable environment and establishing the infrastructure base, have already been achieved. The plan succeeded in supplying an important part of the national manpower needed to achieve diversification. Awadi

added that achieving diversification does not mean doing it in isolation of the main available resource. For example, by concentrating on exporting oil products besides crude oil, is in itself a kind of diversification, but still depending on the main available source. He said that petrochemical and oil products have become an important source of income and this trend is increasing.

Diversification

Awadi said that there is a difference between diversification of sources of income and sources of government revenues. Government revenues in most countries depend upon direct and indirect taxation, while Kuwait does not adopt this means, until now, to preserve the prosperity of people.

The means of achieving diversification in sources of income in the second five-year-plan, will continue to remain the same in addition to concentrating on some other means. The new means would include concentrating more on productive services in the fields of finance, trade, transportation and storage. The plan will search for the best fields to develop commodity production sectors both inside and outside the oil sector.

Studies should also deal with preparation for the next plan and issues relating to the national economy and the measures that should be taken by the private and the public sectors, HH said. HH also said that all these issues require double efforts by members and to work and co-ordinate with the government representatives in the council to realise what the citizens hope for.

Sheikh Saad said the annual report for the second session of the council had emphasised the intensive meetings and studies which had been undertaken by the council committees and then approved by the council and referred to the council of ministers for implementation.

The council then discussed topics on agenda and was briefed on the resolution of the council of ministers concerning the 7th meeting of the second session of the planning council.

The meeting also decided to continue the current formation of the permanent committee so as to enable them continue their duties.

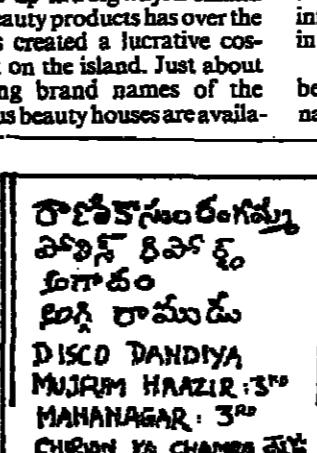
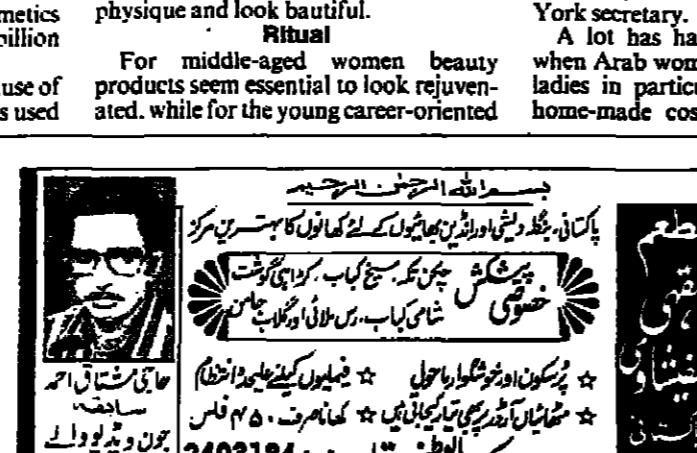
The secretary general presented the second annual report on the activities of the council during its second session from the period between September 21, 1988 and June 6, 1989.

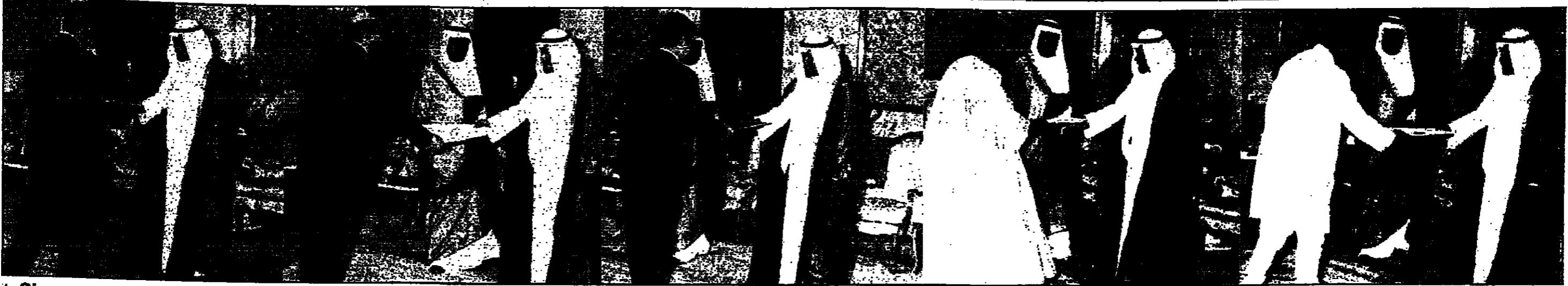
The council also decided to refer the report of the Planning Ministry on following up implementation of the policies of the development plan for the period between July 1, 1988 and December 31, 1988 to the public policies committee for study and to prepare a report on it for the council.

The next meeting for the council was decided to be held on November 22, 1989.

Follow-up

Awadi emphasised the importance of implementation and follow up of the five-year plan programmes. He said that Kuwait is now trying to create planning and follow-up units in the various government sides. The Ministry of Planning is now working to upgrade the qualification and experience of personnel involved in preparing and implementing the five-year plan and also improve methods used for this purpose. Concerning information, the ministry and the Higher Planning Council are working to regulate the flow of information on the planning process by expanding the use of computers. The ministry is currently preparing a wide range of awareness programme to enlighten the public of the importance of planning.





Six new envoys present credentials to Amir

HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah received the credentials of six new ambassadors to Kuwait: Iran, Sweden, New Zealand, Mexico, Mali and India. The ceremony which was held at the Bayan Palace was attended by the Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Undersecretary of the Amiri Diwan and Commander of the Amiri Guard. Pictured above are the ambassadors of Sweden, New Zealand, Mexico, Mali and India presenting their credentials.

Full confidence in the US judiciary

Sunset hours with Khashoggi

By Ahmed Al Jarallah
Editor-in-Chief, Arab Times

TIME passed so quickly with Adnan Khashoggi and has brought me to the sunset of my visit. With Adnan, everything is relative and my mind was full of questions while going around in the palace looking in all directions at giant New York City.

I began arranging, gathering my information and recollecting. I began remembering how Adnan, this Bedouin individual became the richest man in the world. This Bedouin has reached a unique standard in his life and has provided us with a unique example of lifestyle. So luxurious is his life that both rich and poor envy this man.

He gives a good example as to the manner in which Bedouins should behave when they become rich. He lives lavishly but without harming anyone. This could be one of the most important characteristics of Arab rich men.

Rich people are not unable to imitate Khashoggi because they don't have money. They have but are worried about. Their penis does not ring loud like that of Khashoggi.

While thinking on these lines, Adnan came closer to me ever so suddenly and as he looked at me I was compelled to start the dialogue.

"Adnan, you are more famous than cinema stars. It seems that the American people do not hate you. I realised this during our trip in New York," I said.

"When I was being taken from Switzerland to USA, and I was handcuffed, an American citizen who was travelling aboard the plane came to me and said, 'Mr Khashoggi, my country really does not deserve what you have done for it. You have marketed many of my country's products and created many job opportunities for Americans. I, as an American, feel ashamed of the treatment you are receiving from my country. Instead of rewarding you, they are handcuffing you.' This American citizen was not satisfied at expressing his feelings to me but took out \$1,000 and offered it to me as a contribution from him for the costs of trials and lawyers. I accepted the amount, not because I needed it but as a kind of good memory and gratitude," Adnan said.

1989, at 9.00 am, I heard knocks on my door that I have never been accustomed to. It was indeed abnormal knocking. I immediately felt that something abnormal must have happened. This is because the secretariat and my people are accustomed not to disturb me when I am asleep. Soon after, my private doctor, Nicol entered the room. He was sad and gloomy. He soon told me in a state of confusion, that a Swiss judge had asked to be led to my bedroom, in my private suite in the hotel. As soon as Nicol completed his sentence, I found the Swiss judge in front of me, accompanied by two policemen. They informed me that I was under arrest, pending deportation to the US in accordance with a demand by the US authorities.

"Ahmed, believe me, I kept my nerves very cool. I was very quiet while hearing the news of my arrest. The Swiss judge expected that I would cry, protest, scold and frantically use the telephone to seek assistance from my friends, or at least do something to prevent the judge and his two men from taking me to jail. I did nothing of the sort. I just surrendered myself to Allah's wish. In such cases, there is no one but Allah to ask for help and assistance.

I even asked my employees to remain quiet and to stay normal. Before going with the judge, I asked him if I could take my bath and breakfast and phone my wife and children to tell them the news. He accepted. Under the shower, I was thinking of the secret why Allah has put me in this difficult situation or in this

your stay in jail?" I asked. Smilingly, Adnan said: "In jail I met two colleagues. The first a Tunisian for living in Switzerland illegally and he was ordered to leave the country leaving behind his wife and two sons. I donated \$15,000 to him to help him take his wife and sons and go back to his country. The second prisoner was very noisy and was kept in a cell beside mine. The man used to cry and shout day and night and used to hit his head against the wall. He used to get very angry and excited at odd hours, specially late after midnight. I never complained against this prisoner colleague, but I prayed for his sake. He was later transferred to another cell far from me.

"The jail experience had many positive health impacts on me. The whole of my lifestyle changed. In jail, I felt the quiet atmosphere I was forced to live in. The continual ringing of the telephone in my head stopped. I rested from travelling between countries. Night to me became night and sowsal the day." And as I told you Ahmed, that bitter experience gave me the opportunity to think and practice Allah's rights (worship)."

"Adnan, how did you feel about the American who donated \$1,000 to you?" I asked him.

"Basically, I accepted and retained the amount as evidence of my belief in the American people. This belief was never shaken even during the case. I don't regret carrying out work relating to attempts to improve US relations with a large number of Arab and Islamic countries," he

said.

"After all this, what do you want Adnan?"

"I want the media to stop calling me the 'Arms Dealer or Merchant.' I am not an arms dealer. I simply am a mediator, a middleman between America and other countries, enjoying independence and sovereignty. I have never traded in arms. The arms merchant buys arms to resell it to other countries with the aim to make profits. I am not like them. In any case, my work as a broker has been stopped."

"Were you ashamed while the cuffs were on you, and newsmen were surrounding you to record that moment and the amazing scene?" I asked.

"On the contrary Ahmed, he replies; I never felt ashamed. I raised my cuffed hands high for the photographers and I smiled for them. I was confident that the steel on my hands was not as a drug dealer. I was confident of my innocence."

Confidence

"This confidence was true, as the judge of the Manhattan court released me on bail and ordered me to put on the electronic ring for precaution. The prosecutor was not happy with this decision

trouble. I have no feeling of hate against anyone and do not intend to harm anyone. My mind began thinking and calculating. I prayed to God to help me in negating all the accusations tabled against me by the US prosecutor. I firmly believed in my innocence. After the shower, I felt very confident and very quiet. I informed my family and my lawyer. I spoke to my wife Lamia and my daughter Nabeela. Coincidentally, I went to the Swiss jail in my private car and without handcuffs."

Conditions

"Adnan, when you were in jail, how hard was the new life on how hard was the new life on how hard was the new life on how did you live it?"

"In jail, I got my meals from the restaurant, and I found a good opportunity to reduce. My food mainly consisted of vegetables and fish. I loved eating Tuna, Salmon, and blue fish. All were light meals. I took also fruits and special mint tea. In the cell, I enjoyed watching TV and reading books. Such a 'luxury' is allowed in Swiss jails including a telephone service. I was in contact with my friends and my wife," he replies.

"Adnan, did you meet with any important incidents during

that moment and the amazing scene?" I asked.

"I was really regrettable to see that the rivals resorted to smearing the well-intended original idea. And all Robert McFarlane had to do was to show further patience and perseverance from the moment the word 'go' was given. If someone else was in charge of the operation, he would not have let things deteriorate the way he did. The current US administration is striving to reach a state of openness towards Iran, as the strategic needs still exist. I personally believe that President Bush is a whole lot better than what most Americans thought he would be. The guy is wise, courageous, takes his time in considering matters, and avoids



Khashoggi with Ahmed Al Jarallah — survival of the fittest

impulsive hasty decisions intended to be of high sounding information noise for the sake of fame.

"Our age is the age of opportunity and dangers. Look at the whirl of changes in China, the USSR and the Eastern bloc, which have considerably altered the balance of events in the world. However, the wise judgement, and clarity of vision that characterise the approach of President Bush are in fact all what every one needs, taking into account the circumstances I have referred to earlier on," Adnan says.

Nature

"What else could you want from this life, Mr. Khashoggi? What do you plan to do with all this wealth?"

He sighed and said: "I have already told some newspapers things to this effect, and I find myself wanting to ask what the term 'for the general good' really means. To Mussolini this expression used to mean that 'trains must run according to schedule,' and to Hitler 'the purity of the West German breed,' to the advocates of humanity and welfare meant 'feeding the starved and treating the ill,' while to sociologists it means 'being tolerant with practising the Malthusian doctrine' or allowing the ill and starved to die to enable the better-equipped to survive, drawing on the theory that says 'survival is for the fittest.'

"He laughs and says, "I usually am guided by the equation that we make money to live a better life and provide others with the chance to earn money. The question is how many beds can a single man sleep on, and what amount of food he could eat? It is a down-to-earth question and holds true. Henceforth, I tell you that making money for the sake of money is but a big mistake."

He abruptly stopped talking to say it was time for lunch. "Let's go eat and see how many broilers you can get into?" he said.

We went to have lunch. Everything seemed limited. What the rich man could eat was similar to size to what the poor man could eat. What applies to the haves applies to the have-nots. The laws of nature applies to all indiscriminately.

Time goes by, you could only tell by the rules of protocol around the house — the palace. At night I had another chance to resume the dialogue with Adnan with more questions and answers.

At one moment I resumed my

conversation with Adnan, taking care to pick up where I left off to follow the same sequence of events and click back into the same progressive scenario, by saying: "Here we are in the middle and I have a question spinning in my mind. It could take you by surprise for the wealthy and known man you are, what could you possibly do for the general good of the world?"

His head fell forward in the still of the night, but soon came up again looking at me, and said: "This question is a long issue. So we had better divide it up into two parts. First, let's talk about what I should do as part one and what I could do as part two."

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things to this effect, and I find myself wanting to ask what the term 'for the general good' really means. To Mussolini this expression used to mean that 'trains must run according to schedule,' and to Hitler 'the purity of the West German breed,' to the advocates of humanity and welfare meant 'feeding the starved and treating the ill,' while to sociologists it means 'being tolerant with practising the Malthusian doctrine' or allowing the ill and starved to die to enable the better-equipped to survive, drawing on the theory that says 'survival is for the fittest.'

"He asked me what I will do for the good of the world, and I said that my commitments and possibilities are similar to those shouldered by many others; despite the variance in degree, as we businessmen have success, wealth and power close at hand.

"The most prominent of the world's problems, are starvation and diseases, not just the type prevalent in Sudan or Ethiopia, but the type that exists all over the world. There are more than

Kuwait calls for defining terrorism

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 18, (Kuna): Kuwait yesterday said international terrorism in all its forms, was a threat to international peace and security and must therefore be condemned.

The Kuwaiti representative Nasser Al Sabeeh told the legal committee that there must be a differentiation between acts of terrorism and the struggle of peoples for national liberation.

The activities of the PLO and SWAPO are living examples of people struggling for their rights and national liberation.

Sabeeh said his country supports the convening of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggle of people for national liberation.

Kuwait, he said, supported the UN in its efforts to combat terrorism and had ratified relevant international conventions.

He said radical solutions must be found to combat and prevent terrorism, and measures to be taken should include prosecution of terrorists, exchange of information and adherence by all states to international conventions relating to terrorism.

The legal committee has been discussing since Friday proposed initiatives to prevent and combat international terrorism.

Bahraini representative Tawfeeq Al Mansour said his country shunned violence and encouraged peaceful co-existence of states.

Bahrain, he added, condemned all acts of violence that threatened international peace and security as well as human life and urged accession by states to international conventions on terrorism.

He said his country supported the convening of an international conference to define terrorism and to differentiate it from the struggles of people for national liberation.

He expressed hope that in defining terrorism, account would be taken of its causes, both past and present.

He said it was regrettable that some states have a linkage between acts of terrorism and legitimate struggles. Any kind of comparison between the two was wrong and unjust, he added.

Even the UN Charter, he said, recognises self-determination as a fundamental principle of international law.

He said actions by Israel against the Palestinian people as well as similar activities by South Africa against its black populations were state terrorism.

Arabic text on the right side of the page, likely a newspaper column or article.

Shahri Sharq

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Computer virus could penetrate Kuwait's facilities

TWO Kuwaiti experts have said that there is a probability that a "computer virus" presently said to bug computers abroad could penetrate computer appliances in Kuwait. However, they claimed that there is no serious danger because preventive measures have been initiated to face this eventuality.

A local daily reported that a computer virus had attacked the computer facilities of a national company during the past few months which destroyed a part of stored information. The virus also attacked the personal computer at the faculty of science at Kuwait University.

However, it is treated with a special programme from a foreign specialised firm. The virus also attacked the computers of the Ministry of Communications which destroyed the records of telephone bills for that month.

Dr. Ahmad Bishara, chairman of Kuwait Computer Society said that the virus may penetrate computers at anytime — irrespective whether these computers are central or personal.

The official cautioned personal computer users against inserting programmes already used into their computers

unless they ensure their original source. Copies of their personal programmes should also be kept, in case of penetration of the virus.

Security

Bishara said that central computers used in ministries, banks and companies are more prone to virus attacks due to the large number of dealers. Some people also benefit from the loss of data or information stored in these computers. Though, the official added, all such large institutions do keep back-up copies of their information.

Meanwhile, Ali Khalil, director of operations at the National Centre of Computer and Microfilm of the Ministry of Planning stressed that the ministries and government establishments have adequate security systems to preserve information and data stored in their computers.

The data systems used abroad are commercial and are different from systems used by government authorities in Kuwait. However, this does not preclude the possibility of the virus invading local computer networks, the official said.

However, he added, that the computer network in Kuwait cannot be used by unauthorised persons. Even those that are authorised to operate are restricted to usage. The ministry uses a security system called RACF which gives only limited range of data that concerns the operator who uses a special code.

Should the operator try to obtain information over and above his authorisation, the service automatically disconnects and the security system notifies the National Centre of the event, including the name of the operator and the time of occurrence.

کے گرد سماں پر کسی نہیں کر سکے اسی کے لئے ایک طبقہ میں میں

کی مدد اور مدد اسی کے لئے ایک طبقہ میں میں

ک

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

ONLY parents' love can last our lives — Robert Browning, English poet (1812-1889).

De Klerk means business, it seems

SOUTH Africa's release of Walter Sisulu and seven other prominent political prisoners has convinced a broad range of opinion in the United States that South African President FW de Klerk means business.

The release and other recent moves by the white minority government have been interpreted as evidence of a serious desire to reshape South Africa's apartheid system, which denies political rights to the black majority.

"The steps De Klerk has taken are very significant, although they are of course only a beginning," said an administration official. "We have found ample reason... to believe that it's worth giving De Klerk the benefit of the doubt for now."

What do we do now? We watch some more and we think about ways to be helpful in any process that gets going," the official said. "As long as there is a process of engagement, it doesn't make sense to talk of deadlines or more sanctions."

Apart from Sisulu's release, the administration is encouraged by De Klerk's meeting last week with Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other leading anti-apartheid clergymen and by the fact that peaceful black demonstrations have been permitted.

The Bush administration has trod a careful line on South Africa. It has acknowledged that trade sanctions reluctantly imposed by its predecessor, under pressure from Congress, have helped stimulate new thinking within the white community there.

But it has resisted extending sanctions, saying its policy must be a balance of pressures and incentives.

Washington will now be watching for a willingness by Pretoria to engage in dialogue with genuine black leaders and for moves towards lifting restrictions on the banned African National Congress (ANC) and the release of its leader Nelson Mandela, in prison since 1964.

"They are certainly moving towards unbanning the ANC, which would satisfy many of the demands for a beginning of real negotiations," said Herman Nickel, who served as US ambassador to South Africa from 1982 to 1986.

"It's striking the degree to which they are allowing Mandela to transform himself from a martyr to an active political leader again while still behind bars," said Nickel, now with the US Institute for Peace.

Some analysts believe the latest developments will strengthen those voices seeking tough new sanctions on US imports of key South African minerals such as gold and chromium.

"The intellectual argument over sanctions has been won," said Herbert Howe, head of African studies at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

"People like (Democratic Senator) Edward Kennedy will keep mobilising for sanctions, especially moves designed particularly to hurt white South Africans," he said.

De Klerk's actions have drawn plaudits from an unusually wide range of American opinion, united liberals and conservatives in a rare chorus of praise.

Liberal Washington Post columnist Stephen Rosenfeld recently compared De Klerk to advantage with Israel's Hardline Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, urging the latter to show some of the courage of the South African leader.

Tension gone, suspicion stays

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak, in two days of low-key talks with his old protagonist Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi, has reduced much of the long-standing tension between the neighbouring states.

But diplomats said on Wednesday each leader had his own reasons for mending the long-standing rift, and it could take years for deeply-embedded suspicion to evaporate.

"I think Mubarak has removed some of the more menacing aspects of the relationship with his downbeat approach, but I don't see it going far beyond that," said one Western envoy.

The two leaders, meeting on Monday in the Egyptian resort of Mersa Metruh and the following day in the Libyan garrison town of Trobuk, have agreed to set up offices in each other's capitals but they fell short of restoring full relations.

In Cairo, workmen have been repairing the villa, now fallen into disrepair, where Libya once had a diplomatic presence before links were cut in December 1977 after border clashes.

The only other concrete agreement to emerge from the talks was to allow Libyans and Egyptians to cross the frontier — reopened last June — on production of their identity cards.

Egyptian media reported on Wednesday, however, that there was more to it than that.

Libyan visitors, local newspapers and Cairo radio reported, would be issued with a special identity card or travel document, and Egyptians heading for Libya would have to conform with conventional formalities.

"I think the Egyptians must be a little concerned by the prospect of Libyans flooding into Cairo from the point of view of security, particularly in view of the presence of the US and Israeli embassies," said one European envoy.

Egypt is the only Arab country to have made peace with Israel while Khaddafi has said on more than one occasion that the Jewish state should cease to exist. (Cairo — Reuter)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1768 — Turkey declares war on Russia to defend Polish liberties.
 1781 — British troops under Cornwallis capitulate at Yorktown, Virginia, as American revolutionary war ends.
 1812 — Napoleon Bonaparte begins retreat from Moscow.
 1912 — Bulgarians begin siege of Turkish City of Adrianople in Balkan war.
 1915 — Japan signs treaty of London.
 1921 — Revolution in Lisbon.
 1925 — Italy completes occupation of Italian Somaliland.
 1935 — League of Nations imposes sanctions against Italy.
 1944 — US troops land in Philippines in World War II.
 1957 — West Germany severs relations with Yugoslavia.
 1960 — United States places embargo on shipment to Cuba.
 1962 — Fighting erupts between Indian and Chinese troops on two fronts on the disputed Himalayan border between India and China.
 1973 — Libya, angered by United States's Middle East policy, orders halt of all oil shipments to United States and almost doubles prices.
 1976 — Triple veto in UN Security Council by Britain, France and United States blocks resolution that would have embargoed arms shipments to South Africa.
 1977 — South Africa bans black protest groups, closes leading black newspaper in the country, and arrests the editor and other blacks in raids.
 1987 — Two trains collide head on south of Jakarta, Indonesia, killing 102 people and injuring about 300.
 1988 — Rocket fired by Muslim guerrillas kills 9 people and injures 17 near Kabul airport.

War on drugs is a skirmish

Benazir pledges to halt heroin trade

PRIME MINISTER Benazir Bhutto's war on drugs is still just a skirmish.

Benazir pleased the United States, a major ally, earlier this year when she pledged to halt the heroin trade that has tarnished Pakistan internationally and poses a major threat at home.

"Benazir has made a major effort that is supported by the people of Pakistan," says US Ambassador to Pakistan Robert Oakley.

Western drug enforcement officials, however, complain that Benazir's new effort has yet to take off.

"Benazir feels strongly about narcotics and wants to be seen by the US as doing something," says a foreign drug enforcement official. "The vibes are positive, but it hasn't translated into much yet."

She has arrested major drug traffickers, and some were extradited to the US. But they are likely to get off because of poor police investigation and weak legal evidence.

"The level of investigation is so poor, they can't even crack a street-dealing case, let alone go after a drug cartel," says a Pakistani familiar with drug enforcement. "The money in this business is so big, they can buy anyone."

Drug money and corruption have so compromised law enforcement that an effective police crackdown is impossible. "The corruption is so ingrained," says a Western drug enforcement official, "for 100 rupees (\$5) a day, you can get someone on the inside to watch the narcotics control board."

And although Benazir anti-drug resolve is sincere, Western officials say, she confronts a nexus of drug dealers and politicians — a legacy of the regime of the late President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq — which also touches her own Pakistan People's Party.

Indeed, Western officials fear that drug enforcement could become paralyzed by Benazir's growing political standoff with right-wing opponents led by Punjab Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif.

In August, officials in her government say, the prime minister cancelled foreign trips because the drug mafia in league with the political opposition was urging the Army to declare martial law.

Benazir was elected last December after Zia's death a year ago in a mysterious airplane crash. Zia ruled Pakistan for eleven years, much of it under martial law.

Benazir's noisy battle with the opposition has led to other confrontations. She has not spoken for two months to the conservative and powerful President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, who wields a sweeping constitutional check on the prime minister, political observers say.

The dispute stems from Benazir's effort to forcibly retire a high-level military official, a change foisted by the president. The incident left some quarters of the army uneasy with what was seen as Benazir's meddling in the military.

"There's been a definite change in the sincerity and the desire of the government to do something about drugs and to go after the big dealers," says a Western diplomat. "The big question now is, does she have the political staying power to do it?"

Pakistan's drug problem continues to spread. There are now 800,000 to 1 million addicts in the country, up from a negligible number in 1979.

At that time, the West-flowing opium trade was diverted to Pakistan by a drug crackdown in eastern Turkey, the Islamic revolution in Iran, and the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, also a major poppy-producing area.

Soon, the emerging Pakistani market was glutted with cheap drugs. Drug barons penetrated easily the politically unstable and economically weak society, where Islamic prohibitions on liquor also contributed to drug use. In Pakistan's largest city, Karachi, the drug trade has fuelled escalating ethnic tensions.

Western officials claim a new awareness of the drug threat is growing in Pakistan and has led to some enforcement success in areas where the opium-producing poppy is grown.

Last winter, opium production fell about 25 per cent, to 150 metric tons.

But much of the drop was due to late rains and higher prices for alternate crops. As a result, enforcement could be maintained this year but output could still rebound due to these other factors.

The arrests of several major operators have made dealers and their political clients more wary, Pakistani and Western officials say.

Last April, Farooq Hamid, a pilot of the late President Zia, was arrested for smuggling heroin. A month later, Malik Salim, a known pedlar, was extradited to the US after a long legal battle.

Corruption from the drug trade has become so widespread that it now includes government officials, army officers, businessmen, and members of the Afghan resistance based in Peshawar. Western officials feel only an extensive operation by paramilitary forces could root out the drug trade.

However, drug enforcement action in the

drug trade in Pakistan has become so widespread that it is now said to include government officials, army officers, businessmen and even members of the Afghan resistance movement.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has pledged to halt the

heroin trade, which has tarnished her country's image. However, observers feel that her war on the drug lords faces a lot of obstacles because drug money and corruption have compromised the law enforcement to such an extent that any effective action seems impossible.



Benazir Bhutto: effort

bring drug-related charges against Fazle Haq, a retired general and former chief minister of the Northwest Frontier Province.

Haq was arrested in July for the murder last year of a Peshawar religious leader. He is rumoured to have links with drug syndicates.

However, the cases are long-standing and not the result of recent work since Benazir set up a special narcotics ministry and reorganized the narcotics control division.

Indeed, Western officials and Pakistani observers say the government will have a tough time winning convictions because of inadequate investigations by a corrupt and disillusioned police force.

Now can Western officials ignite a crackdown against 100 heroin labs tribal areas along the border with Afghanistan. Opium output there is six to eight times larger than that of Pakistan.

The "muj" fears the cutoff of arms from the West," says a Pakistani official. "They may turn more to drugs for the money to buy arms on the international market."

"There's no doubt that the 'muj' and the Afghans are heavily involved," says a foreign drug enforcement official.

"This is a real worry. When the refugees go back, with all their farms and villages devastated, what else are they going to turn to?" (Islamabad — CSM).

Province could provoke political turmoil for Benazir. She is in a coalition government there with politicians supported by tribes involved in poppy cultivation for generations.

Western officials say an end to the conflict in Afghanistan could lead to a more effective clampdown on the lawless border region.

But it also could worsen, Western and Pakistani officials concede, especially if the factional fighting among the Afghan rebels known as the mujaheddin continues. Also Afghan refugees, some of whom have developed international drug knowledge and connections, could turn to drugs as they return to the devastated country.

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Let us pray

Sir. It is honour for all Muslims to celebrate Melad ul Nabi. Fourteen hundred years ago Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) was born in Holy Makkah on this day. He was a great reformer who fought a long battle against non-believers. He showed right path to nation. He delivered the message of Almighty Allah. He taught the people that there is no God but Allah who has created this world and is owner of all things, and is owner of day of judgement, where all of us would be given reward for what we have been doing in this world.

Thank God, we are Muslims, we have strong faith in Allah and his Prophet Mohammed (PBUH). But very sorry to write that Muslims in the world have forgotten the preaching of Mohammed (PBUH), preaching of Islam.

This world is nothing but a dream, which attracts too much. We all are here for a finite time. We have to suffer death. How many have been departed who were with us and whom we knew. In the same way we will die one day sooner or later.

So we should think what we have done for day of judgement. Let us act upon the preaching of Islam, preaching of Mohammed (PBUH). Let us pray five times a day, let us recite the Holy Quran and pass the life as told. Let us speak truth, let us work hard, let us get education, let us respect each other, help each other, love each other. Let us spend for the poor. Let us beg from Almighty Allah, this blessing. He may forgive us. We are helpless, we are poor, we are having the life which is full of sins. O, Almighty God help us forgive us for the sake of Mohammed (PBUH) whose day of Milad we celebrate. We are worst and having a sinful life but, atleast we are from umma of Your Prophet whom You love much, for whom You created this world, for whom You gave honour, for whom You recommended Durood as You Almighty and Your Angels do this same.

Let us pray for Muslims of the world who are suffering today. Muslims of Afghanistan, India, Palestine, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Philippines and every where in the world.

Nasim Iqbal Khan, Safi

Publish Urdu pages

SIR: I wish to draw your attention towards an important issue. As you know, only Arab times had privilege to publish Urdu pages in the whole Gulf area. It was an excellent medium for large number of Urdu speaking community both Indians and Pakistanis to express themselves in their own language.

This community is in Kuwait for a long time and have played an active part in its development and constructions. Now they are deprived of this facility.

I presume hundred per cent people from our community used to buy "Arab Times" only due to presence of Urdu pages. You are well-known for your open and adventurous policies. Any reader can observe Filipino Digests and irrelevant stories of cats and dogs in the US. Moreover there are Malayalam pages in the other English newspaper in Kuwait. So, why not Urdu pages? Please revert to publish Urdu pages alongwith English.

Abdul Karim Safi

Mother India

SIR: In an article on Indian cinema published in the TV programme magazine, I read that Nargis in Mabbob Khan's "Mother India" (1957) played the title role. But as far as I know, "Mother India" is short for "our mother India" or the Indian mother. The vocabulary "mother" refers to India and not to Nargis. Nargis is the mother of all Indians. Actress Nargis was not the mother of India neither on nor off screen.

Ali Behbehani, Hawaii

Quote me

"We do not think of such things... We do not want to become slaves again, neither of the home capitalists, nor of the capitalists and imperialists abroad. Let those gentlemen have no illusion and no concern: no one will ever work for them in Romania." Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu saying his country is not for the reformists initiated by Poland and Hungary.

"We don't reject violence. It is not because (the ANC) believes in violence for its own sake. It is because of compelling conditions. Remove the compelling conditions and there will be peace." — Walter Sisulu advocating the doctrine of an eye for an eye.

"The pressure must be sustained. There must be no chance for the government to retreat and reorganize. Democracy — I know it to be only one thing: a vote for all. There is no other democracy. We have got fundamental differences on that with the government." — Walter Sisulu on why pressure must continue unabated on the Pretoria regime.

"I find the spirit of the people different. I think there is much greater political consciousness, greater awareness, greater unity." — ANC leader Walter Sisulu on changes since he was imprisoned.

"The way forward is not to set it back and not to put artificial deadlines upon people. You must allow the reform process to go forward to prove its worth." — Britain urging patience on dealing with the dismantling of apartheid.

"I know that you are going to want to bury that past because you don't want to be leaving here accomplices in the continuation of the war, the pain, the tears and the death." — President Oscar Arias of Costa Rica at peace talks with rebels and the government.

"Basically, the government proposals is to stop the fighting without basis or discussion — simply silence the guns. This is an absurd, illogical and inflexible scheme." — Joaquin Villalobos, a leader of the Farabundo National Liberation Front ridiculing the Costa Rican government for its inflexibility.

"I am admirer of Elvis from Russia. I am ambassador of Russian rock 'n' roll. I love rock 'n' roll many, many years. I am happy to be here today." — Kolya Vasin, a Soviet fan of Elvis who came to America solely to visit Graceland.

"The cold war in Africa is over. It's fair to say that in Africa, there is more cooperation than non-co-operation Union." — Herman Cohen, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, contrasting the detente in Africa to that between the US and the Soviet

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Deep oil in Arab countries

Kuwait has 60pc of oil reserves

By Sonny Abraham

Arab Times staff

ESTIMATES indicate that more than 60 per cent of the deep oil reserves of the Arab countries are to be found in Kuwait (17.9 billion barrels) while some 55 per cent of the deep gas reserves appear to be located in the United Arab Emirates (50 trillion cubic feet).

According to a paper presented by Kenneth J. Chew of Petroconsultants, Geneva, at the recent seminar on "Deep Formations" in Abu Dhabi, there are indications that the Greater Burgan field in Kuwait contains the largest reserves of deep reservoir oil, while Umm Shaif in the UAE apparently has the largest deep gas reserves.

The estimate of the total deep hydrocarbon reserves of the Arab countries is around 29,300 million barrels of oil and condensate and 91,300 billion cubic feet of gas. This works out to a total oil equivalent of 42,450 million barrels.

The first deep well in the region was spudded at Ratawi in Iraq way back in November, 1948, and took almost 17 months to complete. That was also the first deep discovery, abandoned as it was after a gas blowout.

Since 1950, deep exploration wells have been completed each year, with the maximum number of reported deep completions (70) being reached in 1982 and again in 1984. The trend over the past 40 years has been one of increasing numbers of deep wells being drilled.

Only 31 deep exploration wells were reported completed in 1988, however, a decline of 39 from the peak four years earlier.

According to the paper, out of the 1,092 deep exploratory wells reported in the period 1950-88, four countries account for 73 per cent of the total. They are Egypt, Libya, the United Arab Emirates and Algeria.

Within the 22 Arab countries, 44 geological provinces are known to have been tested at depth by one or more wells. Lebanon is the only country for which no deep drilling has been reported.

The 115 deep reservoirs in the region occur in 85 separate fields and discoveries, restricted to just 12 of the 44 geological provinces in which deep wells have been drilled. As might be expected, the Arabian basin, with 61 reservoirs in 39 fields and discoveries, is the most prolific, the paper says.

It says that the deepest well so far reported is Burgan 399, a deep-pool wildcat in the Burgan field, spudded by the Kuwait Oil Company, in December, 1979.

Of the 44 geological provinces with recorded deep drilling, 31 can be said to be at a very immature stage of exploration with less than one wildcat well per 5,000 sq km. Of the remaining twelve provinces which have a reported drilling density of between 1,000 and 5,000 sq km per wildcat, nine are in North Africa and only three, the Southeast Mediterranean, the Dead Sea Graben and the Oman basin, are in the Near East.

The paper concludes that there can be little doubt that the combination of hydrocarbon richness and exploration immaturity indicated in the Arabian and Zagros provinces, implies a substantial potential for future discoveries in these areas.

Beware of financial advisers

A timely warning

By Tony Mustafa
Special to the Arab Times

THE rather altruistic motive of wishing to share the abundance of technical and managerial expertise which we enjoy in our own countries with less-privileged developed neighbours on this planet, does motivate many people to come here but, apart from that, I have found that there seems to be about four common goals amongst experts:

1) A desire to amass capital.
2) An almost pathological hate of high taxation.
3) The urge to escape a regimented, dull life "in the rat."
4) Escape the cold weather."

I would like to concentrate on numbers 1 and 2 but am the first to acknowledge that these should not take absolute precedence over numbers 3 and 4—there is little point in selling today for tomorrow. It would be verging on the foolhardy to commit oneself to a hard and fast course of action within the first three or four months, especially in relation to saving money.

After all, there is the new video, the sound system, the missing kitchen equipment etc. to buy and the cost of living decreases as you get to know the wrinkles in this almost totally strange environment.

However, for those of us who have progressed beyond that initial three or four months, it will be a very interesting exercise to spend five minutes assessing the motives, in writing, which brought us out here in the first place and to then, in a corresponding column, chart how far we have got towards achieving these goals. Question: How do you eat an elephant, isn't it? But you have got to make a start sometime and procrastination is the thief of time! I am assuming of course, that the answers that emerged from the five minutes paper exercise proved to be, as they nearly always do, the ones that the experts objectives—sometimes woefully so!

However, before you dash out to make that monthly remittance to wherever it may be, it might be as well to tidy up the existing mess first, if such exists.

Tax affairs in the country of origin should be looked at and your tax authorities informed of the fact that you have moved outside their jurisdiction; have you got an unclaimed rebate due to you if you left midway through a tax year? What is your status with your Health Authority? (Medicare?); if retained by Australian, can jeopardise their non-resident status for tax purposes); have you opened offshore bank accounts, current and deposit, or are you incurring a very heavy interest back at home?

Have you leased your house at home or is it on a care and maintenance footing awaiting your return? How does this affect your non-resident for tax status? Do your solicitors, accountants, bankers, advisors etc. know how to get hold of you? Have you made a will? Are your possessions insured? Do you can answer yes to all these, then you are a sitting duck indeed—In fact one of your ilk about once every six months.

So, now you have cleared the deck for action and you are on the starting blocks, hot to trot! Where to? You look in the business pages of the "Arab Times" and discover that the Nikkei Dow is at an all-time high, the Hans Seng is at a post-crash high, the Dow Jones continues to stagnate and London has managed to pierce the psychological barrier of 2,000 and now stands at 2,138.

There is no need to give it up as all too difficult however, help and guidance are at hand if you care to seek them out. Matching investments to needs is rarely simple and a detailed knowledge of the characteristics of each type of investment is almost imperative, since it enables you to choose between several apparently similar competing bid-

Quake adds new uncertainty

Currency market movements

LONDON, Oct 18, (Reuters): The California earthquake injected new uncertainty into already nervous world markets today but the dollar held steady and stocks resumed their rise.

The earthquake, which struck yesterday, killing at least 272 people, caused an early jump in petroleum prices in Europe and Asia and caused some fluctuations in insurance stocks.

But the overall effect on markets was small and traders were awaiting detailed reports of damage and casualties to assess whether the earthquake would have any major financial impact.

Stock exchanges, still recovering from the aftershocks of New York's sell-off last Friday, took the news of the quake calmly and a recovery on Wall Street yesterday continued to push up shares in Asia and Europe today.

Wall Street closed 19 points down yesterday after rallying from a 63-point decline. "There was a big sigh of relief that New York managed to pull back from a large fall," one London dealer said.

"We're still tracking Wall Street's progress. Market volatility has been easing this week but I think behind it all a shortage of stock will support equities," said another.

British insurance stocks fell slightly at first but then rallied on the realisation that British companies were unlikely to face heavy losses because their exposure was covered on the re-insurance market.

The FTSE index of 100 leading shares closed a strong 34.6 points

higher than yesterday, from which it closed 19 points.

The dollar rose to 141.55 yen from 141.50.

The key index on the Tokyo Stock Exchange rose moderately today, while the US dollar inched

against the Japanese yen.

The 225-issue Nikkei stock average gained 111.48 points, or 0.32 per cent, to 35,107.56. It had gained 527.39 points Tuesday, the second largest one-day gain this year. The largest rise was a 793.90 gain on March 28.

The dollar ended at 142.10 yen, down 0.15 yen from 142.25 yen close. It started higher at 142.35 yen and moved between 142.05 yen and 142.63 yen during the day.

Earlier trading was mixed, and

the dollar at 1,8520 marks and 141.55 yen from today's finish of 1,8525 marks and 141.50.

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Economic reform vital: economist

BERLIN, Oct 18, (UPI): A leading East German economist has joined the growing public call for economic reform, saying his hard-line communist country must "abolish the egalitarianism" but not imitate Western market systems.

Max Schmidt, director of East Germany's Institute of International Politics and Economy, called for wide-ranging changes in East Germany's wage and state subsidy systems at a news conference in the northern city of Magdeburg.

The call for reform came a day after more than 120,000 people were allowed to march freely through the streets of Leipzig in the largest single protest demonstration in the communist country's 40-year history.

Schmidt warned against imitating the Western market systems and said East Germany does not intend to adopt the type of economic reforms introduced by the West German and Hungarian Pact allies Poland and Hungary.

But the economist made a veiled call for production of wages that reflect workers' performance.

"We have to abolish the egalitarianism," Schmidt said. Schmidt said East Germany spent about \$30 billion a year in consumer price subsidies and no longer can afford to subsidize rents and fuel.

Schmidt's remarks came as the ruling Politburo showed the first signs of bowing to public pressure for sweeping reforms demanded during mass pro-democracy demonstrations in the past 10 days.

Sources said the Politburo held a closed-door session Tuesday amid growing speculation that East German leader Erich Honecker and other Politburo members soon may be forced to resign.

West German reports have said 13 of 15 regional party secretaries have called for the resignation of Honecker and the entire 21-man Politburo amid fears of nationwide strikes and continued massive demonstrations.

Several officials of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the formal name of the ruling Communist Party, have taken up the call for reform since tens of thousands of East Germans took to the streets in pro-democracy demonstrations earlier this month.

New bank chief

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Oct 18, (AP): The government announced the appointment of a new Central Bank governor today, state-run radio reported.

It said Subhi Farikoli was sworn in as governor, replacing the day to

replace Hikmat Al-Azawi.

Farikoli, a veteran banker in his late 50s, was deputy governor for many years. Al-Azawi served as minister of Trade and Finance before his appointment as Central Bank Governor in 1984.

Local banks' aggregate balance sheet on the rise

IN August 1989 the Central Bank of Kuwait offered five issues of treasury bills (from issue No. 63 to No. 67), totalling KD759.05 million, matured and thereby bringing the balance of public debt instruments at the end of August 1989 to KD2009.5 million, against KD1973.4 million in the previous month, distributed between KD1564.05 million for treasury bills and KD455 million for treasury bonds, according to CBK Monetary Review.

The high demand for issues of treasury bills was reflected in their oversubscription, which ranged between 130 per cent (for issue No. 64) and 183 per cent (for issue No. 67), an average of

157.9 per cent for all issues. Interest rates acceptable by the Central Bank on issues of treasury bills ranged between 8.005 per cent (on issue No. 63) and 8.324 per cent (on issue No. 67).

Developments reflected in data contained in this Review for August 1989 regarding money market interest rates, the KD exchange rate, the Central Bank balanced KD with local banks and the aggregate balance sheet of local banks can be summarized as follows:

Interest rates on interbank KD deposits increased markedly on all maturities at varied rates, 15.56 per cent (from 7.50 per cent to 8.66 per cent) on three-month deposits and 16.32 per cent (from 7.48 per cent to 8.70 per cent) on one-year deposits.

The KD exchange rate was relatively stable against major currencies, as its decline did not exceed 0.57 per cent against the US dollar, whose exchange rate ranged between 293.22 fils and 299.39 fils, an average of 297.20 fils.

Against other major currencies, the KD performance was mixed, as it increased slightly against the Swiss franc, the Deutsche mark, the pound sterling and the French franc by 0.57 per cent, 0.53 per cent, 0.38 per cent, 0.13 per cent respectively.

Meanwhile, the KD also declined slightly against the Japanese yen (0.54 per cent) and the Italian lira (0.14 per cent). From developments in the KD exchange rate against major currencies, as shown above, it can be noticed that its performance was more stable than the US dollar against these currencies because the KD exchange rate increased at rate less than those recorded by the US dollar against the same currencies.

These rates were, for example, 1.15 per cent, 1.10 per cent, 0.96 per cent and 0.70 per cent against the Swiss franc, the Deutsche mark, the pound sterling and the French franc respectively.

The Central Bank claims in

KD on local banks increased markedly by KD 65 million. This increase is mainly attributed to an increase in the balance of discount and rediscount operations at the Central Bank by KD71 million and a decrease of KD6 million in Central Bank deposits with local banks, against a decline in local banks' claims on the Central Bank by KD6 million as well.

Thus, the net balance of Central Bank operations with local banks increased to KD230 million, an increase of KD71 million (4.1 per cent) over the previous month.

The aggregate balance sheet of local banks (commercial and

specialised) grew by KD117 million (11.8 per cent) over the previous month, totalling KD1305 million.

This growth in that balance sheet, on the side of assets, was most pronounced in foreign assets of these banks which increased by KD76 million (2.4 per cent).

Meanwhile, local assets increased by KD41 million (0.4 per cent). The increase in local assets came as a result of an increase of KD123 million in local banks' claims on residents (credit facilities and local investments), particularly in their holdings of public debt instruments which increased at commercial

banks alone by KD103 million (11.8 per cent) and a decline of KD82 million in other local assets (cash, balances with the Central Bank and swap operations).

On the side of liabilities, residents' deposits (government and private sector) decreased by KD79 million. Meanwhile, foreign liabilities witnessed also a marked increase of KD75 million. Other liabilities on banks (mostly Central Bank's claims on banks in the form of discounts and deposits) increased by KD111 million (3 per cent). In addition, own funds (shareholders' equity) of local banks grew by KD10 million (0.5 per cent).

Seminar on oil and petrochemical industries

UK and Iraq aim to expand energy ties

BAGHDAD, Oct 18, (OPECNA): A three-day seminar on oil, gas and petrochemical industries aimed at boosting co-operation between Iraqi oil institutions and British oil companies ended here Monday.

The seminar was co-sponsored by the Iraqi Ministry of Oil and the British Energy Industries Council. It was attended by British Energy Secretary John Wakeham who brought a delegation representing UK companies, including British Petroleum, British Gas and British Steel.

The seminar discussed technical papers on exploration, production and field development, crude oil, gas and petrochemical technology, as well as pollution and environmental matters.

In his opening speech, Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi provided details of the progress being witnessed in the Iraqi oil sector. He said the holding of such a scientific seminar would enhance bilateral technical co-operation

between Iraq and Britain and could lead to the founding of a joint base for co-operation in the technical and technological aspects of the oil industry.

The minister stated that Iraq possessed a high degree of technical expertise in the field of petrochemicals which put it among some of the advanced countries in this field.

For his part, the British energy secretary paid tribute to Iraq's progress and development, explaining that the seminar would contribute to the enhancement of co-operation between Iraq and the United Kingdom and provide a forum for exchange of views. It would boost bilateral expertise and help find new techniques to deal with oil industry problems.

The accord allows both companies to conduct an 18-month project to determine the hydrocarbon reserve potential of a 1,200 sq. km area in northern Iraq containing four known oil fields.

The study, to be carried out on a co-operative basis, will evaluate the feasibility of increasing production in these fields.

Meanwhile, driven by a hot market for heating oil in Europe, world crude oil prices rose by as

much as 28 cents a barrel yesterday.

On London's International Petroleum Exchange, gas oil — European heating oil — for November delivery finished the trading day at \$183.25 a metric ton, or \$8.55 cents a barrel, a gain of 1.04 cents from Monday.

On the European spot markets where oil is sold to the highest bidder, Britain's widely-traded North Sea Brent was quoted at \$19.63 a barrel, a strong gain of 28 cents over Monday.

Gas oil, which has reached record levels in recent sessions, has been rising for a variety of reasons, including fears that summer strikes in Soviet coal fields would curtail the nation's oil exports to Western Europe.

Following the European lead on the New York Mercantile Exchange, heating oil for delivery in November gained 0.63 cent to end the day at \$1.05 cents a gallon.

The US market was very strong this morning on the basis of buying of gas oil in London.

the developing countries with \$26 billion in trade corrections?

"Weutter charged yesterday

that industrialised governments' unfair trade and agricultural policies cost developing countries billions of dollars a year.

Weutter said these governments should correct what he called "trade distorting policies" so that international commerce can function properly.

"These distortions are provided by governments deliberately, not inadvertently, and it will have to be governments themselves that will make the correction," Weutter told the UN Social and Economic Council on the occasion of the World Food Day. He said the European Economic Community's agricultural and trade policies inflicted the heaviest blow: \$8 billion annually to the poor countries while the United States and Japan each have had a negative impact of about \$4 billion each on these countries.

Weutter said it would be better to correct these distortions than to give \$26 billion in aid.

Weutter said the United States will present its "final position paper" in next week's Uruguay round of the GATT negotiations in Geneva, which will be "relevant to the developing countries and the subject of making this kind of correction."

He said GATT negotiations, expected to conclude in 1990, will offer an immediate means to reduce the costs by developing nations.

He urged rich countries to have the political will to get rid of export subsidies because it would be impossible for developing countries to compete with them.

"One thing is clear," Weutter said. "Agricultural policies that make sense in an isolated market do not necessarily make sense in a global marketplace which prevails today, and it will prevail in the future."

"We can not stand by and let this happen," Weutter said.

Turning to the cost and availability of energy, which affect food prices, Weutter said developing countries have been "much more energy efficient" since the oil shortage crisis in the early 1970s while in the more populated developing world energy use has been relatively less, but demand has increased rapidly.

Gulf ministers discuss unifying customs tariffs

NICOSIA, Oct 18, (Reuter): Ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council began talks in Saudi Arabia today on unifying import duties and boosting regional trade.

Qatari Finance and Petroleum Minister Sheikh Abdul-Aziz Bin Khalifa Al Thani said the Riyadh meeting would discuss ways to "eliminate obstacles (to trade) ... and unify customs duties by GCC states," the Qatari News Agency, received in Nicosia, said.

The GCC is an economic and political alliance grouping the oil-rich states of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

They import nearly all their food and manufactured goods. But with oil reserves of more than 40 per cent of the world's total of about 950 billion barrels, they have increasingly set up oil and gas-based export industries aimed at markets in Western Europe, Japan and the United States.

Economists say about 41 per cent of imports worth nearly \$45 billion enter GCC states with little or no duty while only nine per cent attract the maximum 20 per cent rate.

Every child born owes \$6,250

Greek debt woes mounting

ATHENS, Oct 18, (Reuter): Time is running out for Greece to solve major economic problems, especially a rising mountain of public debt, according to conservative party leader Constantine Mitostakis, who is making a fresh bid to be elected prime minister.

His New Democracy Party is favoured to win elections in November to a position it has not enjoyed since 1981.

Mitostakis must have an absolute majority to administer his planned free-market medicine to an economy being dragged down by debt after eight years of socialist spending.

Referring to the public debt, he said: "Consider a state which borrows 2.5 to three trillion drachmas (\$1.5 to 18.7 billion), which goes largely to consumer spending, and you see we don't have much room for manoeuvre."

"Public debt burdens every citizen with one million drachmas (\$6,250). Every child born owes one million drachmas. This is the example I give to Greek voters to make them understand."

Officials estimate the public sector borrowing requirement for 1989 will reach 20 to 22 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) and the public total outstanding debt will exceed 100 per cent of GDP.

Mitostakis, 71, advocates sweeping reforms to cut the debt built up by the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasiok), which ruled from 1981 until elections in June.

No party won an absolute majority and after a three-month coalition joining neo-conservatism and a communist-led alliance, elections were set for November 5. Polls show new democracy, now with 145 seats, still just short of an absolute majority.

The coalition teamed up solely to order former socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and five of his ministers to stand trial for corruption. The trial is due after the election.

Papandreou, 70, rejects the charges and is trying for a comeback, accusing Mitostakis of wanting to dismantle extensive socialist welfare programmes, covering health services, minimum wage, pensions and rural development.

"I told Mr Papandreou in parliament... when you have a social policy without having the money, you're no longer a politician but you're a political swindler," Mitostakis said.

The new democracy medicine to cure the debt starts with selling state industries, cutting the number of people in the public sector and linking wages to productivity.

"In our first budget we will cut at least 300 to 400 billion drachmas (\$1.8 to 2.5 billion) of unnecessary state spending," Mitostakis said.

The budget must be presented in November.

Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs) Oct 18		
Pr. Close	Open	Close
ACC	272	278
Akem Chem	—	—
Alb Nit	—	—
Ari Fab	80.50	80
Astro Ley	201.25	205
Asia Paint	2850	2875
Atlas Cop	43.50	43
Autolite Corp	72	72
Net Indus	377.72	369.30
Bajaj-Auto	306.25	310
Bair Rayon	665	675
Blow Plast	—	—
Bom Dye	123.50	127
BK Bond	91	90
Burr Wel	95	90
Canashari	—	—
Can Enka	2850	2875
Capita Corp	2180	2120
Colgate	186	185
Cromat Gr	—	—
DCM	13	12
Deep Fert	29	28.75
Dunlop	71	70
EI Hotel	61	60
Ektors	75	75
Emarlex	71.80	69.00
Eskayar	107.50	108.75
Essar Spg	22	21.75
Food Sp	106.25	105
Forbes	48.75	48
Gar Poly	63	64
Glindia	94	93.50
Gulf Fc	29	29
Grasim	95	97.25
GE Shpg	40.35	41
GSFC	165.50	165
Gu Alki	73	73
Gu Heavy	11.50	11.50
Hero Honda	19	18
Hind Cocom	95.50	96.50
Hind Lever	101	100
Hind Motor	126.25	

Two heads are better than one

By Firoze Rangoonwalla

THE tradition of two musical heads better than one has come down from the time of Husnl-Bhagatram and Shanker-Jaikishan. Music duos provide more catchy and stable tunes than single composers. They also divide the work well. If one "head" looks after creating, the second "head" manages the arranging, orchestra and business sides.

Brothers Kalyanji - Anandji proved another such versatile pair. And after working as their assistants, Laxmikant and Pyarelal emerged as the longest lasting film composers. They gave the best of tunes and the worst of them too, but they remained floating. Recently they crossed the silver jubilee of their career. It was in 1963 that they had arrived with the hit duet "Hansha bua noorani chehra" in a banal fantasy called "Parasmani."

Even while playing instruments in the group, Laxmi-Pyare were pushy. They would barge into offices of producers, touch their feet and ask them to hear tunes. That's how Babub-

hai Mistry was impressed. Soon followed another hack mythological! "Harishchandra Tarangini" and then Barjatya's hit "Dosti." Their music was highly appreciated and people kept humming it. They began to dig in their feet. They were called by big banners. Films from Madras like "Pyaar Kiye Jaa" and the Bombay producer J. Om Prakash's "Aaye Din Bahar Ke" put them on the road to fame.

"Milan," "Farz," and "Shagird" were the highlights of their early career. "Sawan ka mahina pawa kare shor" has become an all-time favourite, still in demand at stage shows in India and other countries. For the Bond type thriller "Farz," they gave scintillating tunes and modern effects in the background score to match the new wonders of camera and fast editing. Their biggest asset was the support of Lata Mangeshkar. They began to corner most of the big films and a near monopoly was created by booking of recording rooms, every day of the month, with last-minute cancellations. They also started the trend of getting manipulated

awards. But producers liked L.P.'s set-up and work. Their name became synonymous with L-P records. Famous banners kept repeating them and they too were loyal. For Prasad Productions they composed for all films, till the jubilee hit "Ek Duje Ke Liye" and its romantic numbers. Same was the case with Raj Khosla, resulting in super-hits like "Do Raasle" with Bindya Chamke. There were also "Khilona," "Humjoli," "Mera Gaon Mera Desh" and then the evergreen "Haath Mere Saathi" with its "Chal chal mere haathi."

L-P had caught the essentially Indian nerve of folk source as well as common folks. They tuned especially well with lyricists like Anand Baxi. They also experimented, like songs about games, songs of three generations, loving couple singing in smallest of spots like a car or lift, songs with veiled sex motive, e.g. "Chal yaar dhakkaa maar," songs for children and on dreams of family life. For Manoj Kumar, they brought out patriotic pieces and common man's woes. Of course they also gave several



Laxmikant and Pyarelal with lyricist Anand Bakshi.

Star interview

Poonam Dhillon

Q. Why do you want to carry on acting? Isn't your happy married life enough?

A. Of course I am very happily married, and my husband Aashok (Thakkeria) is extremely good and understanding. He would not like to leave me alone anywhere, but I am quite keen on pursuing my career.

Q. Are you signing many new films?

A. Not as many as some young heroines. I try to read the script and follow the character, make sure there is nothing vulgar and there are no sexy dresses to be worn. Only after that, I take up the film and do my best.

Q. What about the old pending ones? And what if they go against your new rules?

A. The old commitments have to be finished in any case and at any cost. But one can surely be careful about the new offers and how a married

actress should appear on the screen. There is no point in doing just anything for the money. Even in my career I observed this rule. Luckily there is nothing very objectionable in my pending films. Even in "Abhimanyu," supposed to be a sex comedy, my role was much more decent than Kimi's.

Q. What about "Mohabbat Ki Aag"?

A. Same thing. It has also got Shatrughan Sinha, Govinda and Kimi. It is almost complete. In "Deshwasi" I play a village character. "Jaan-e-Mehboob" is a romantic film with a Muslim background. Q. Your husband is producing two films but you are nowhere in them?

A. Yes, "Beta" has the Anil-Madhuri pair which is popular. The other has Aamir and Madhuri. A producer has to see the business side along with other factors, like a role suited to the artiste.

have the maximum number of important films. Laxmi has also favoured them. Jai Kishan died, breaking the S J team and their gurus Kalyanji Anandji gave only selective music. L-P gate crashed into the coveted R K camp and developed vibes with the music-minded showman.

The result was "Bobby," where the songs had the freshness of a new generation and the smell of coastal fisherfolk. For Yash Chopra they did "Daag." They were flooded with offers. In 1974, they had 25 releases, a private silver jubilee of their own. But only some songs and films proved really outstanding as "Sachcha Jhuta" ("Meri Pyari Bahu"), "Nagini" (of Kohli), three hits with Mammoona Dossi

"Dharam Veer," "Amar Akbar Anthony" and "Parvarish," "Sargam," ("Dafli vale"), "Karz," "Ash," "Hero," "Andha Kanoon," "Pyar Jukta Nahin," "Karma," "Nagina" (the snake film) and "Mr. India." Laxmikant's daughter Rajeshwari also became a singer.

Many other music duos were formed to follow the success but none on that level. In recent times, we have Anand-Milind, Nadeem-Shravan, Ram-Laxmi, Mohinder-Jatin. Only the first pair has made a sensation with "Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak." The rest are still trying. But will they last for two and a half decades like L-P? Only the decades have the answer.

Behind the screen

While other heroines are slimming and dieting to keep themselves on the screen despite marriage, like Anita Raj and Poonam Dhillon, the one who is going the Kapoor family way is Reena Roy. She is so firm on keeping away from films, that she has put on a lot of weight and become a baby elephant from the charming and talented actress that she was one. Is she afraid that Miyan Mohsin may talk her into making a come-back for his sake?

The "Ohye Ohye" song which became popular and also a public nuisance has quickly got its follow-ups. Now composers are busy distinguishing various other twists, like "Iye Iye," "Oya Oya," "Oui Oui," "Ehya Ehya" and more. Bappi Lahiri is of course leading the copying.



Leslie Nielsen (left) and Priscilla Presley in The Naked Gun

ning the estate as a business and most important, reuniting his family under one roof. The clash between the old and the new money runs through the plot — the old represented by Anstey's wife Virginia, and the new by their wheelchair neighbour Ewan Chivers.

If you're fed up with movies, the

comedy series "Allo Allo" and "Bread" are into a new season, or you can savour Europe retaining their title in the recent Ryder Cup golf.

The above movies are by courtesy of VFI, Farwanya/Festus; Video Nam, Salimya Complex; Video Club, Salimya — 5724372.

Triple sensation

By John Gilbert

THIS three-in-one music video features hit videos from three of the best known female stars in pop, namely Debbie Gibson, Kim Wilde and Cyndi Lauper. Although all three of these superstar have similar musical styles (basically, they all sing the same sort of infectious pop dance numbers along with occasional ballad), the similarity between the three starts and ends there.

Debbie Gibson is the extraordinary new singer who has literally exploded into the pop music scene challenging the likes of Madonna, Whitney Houston or Gloria Estefan for the title of pop's music queen. Extraordinary, because Miss Deborah Gibson is still only in her teens and yet has already released two top selling albums with a string of successful singles, writing all the songs herself. She is the complete musician, song writer, vocalist and pianist.

The Debbie Gibson "out of the blue" videos combine the youth and exuberance of the singer with high-tech production techniques and special effects that result in some highly polished and exciting videos that further enhance the quality of her songs.

Kim Wilde has been on the music scene for almost a decade now. Bursting onto the pop charts in 1981 when she was only 20 with her No 2 hit "Kids in America" Kim released a succession of hit singles written and produced by her brother Rick. But, the mid-eighties saw a brief slump in her career with singles like "Love blonde" and "Water on Glass" becoming major flops. She made her comeback with her excellent version of the old Supreme's classic "You Keep Me Hanging On" in 1987 and followed it up with "Another Step" a duet with soul jazz artist, Junior. Last year, her new album "Close" was released and it spawned four successful singles including "You Came" and "Hey Mr Heartache" firmly re-establishing Kim Wilde as the top female British pop artist. The production work was handled by her as well.

"Close" the videos contain all the four singles from the album plus two extra tracks from "Another Step".

Cyndi Lauper is the final featured artist on this music video. Dubbed "The Orange Lady of Pop" because of her weird multi-coloured hairstyles and eccentric dress sense Cyndi has nevertheless a huge fan following and is Grammy Award winner for her 1984 album "It's Unusual".

The Cyndi Lauper videos have four of her best songs including "Time After Time" and "I Drove All Night".

Music videos available at the Video Club, Salimya. Tel: 5724372.



Poonam Dhillon

The last stragglers are still arriving

By Brian Hollis

AFTER the big rush of Paramount titles last week, the last stragglers are still arriving. Among them is *The Naked Gun*, which topped the box office in both America and Europe earlier this year. The film combines the talents of the *Airplane*, *Police Academy* and *Police Squad* teams, and must rate as one of the funniest movies for several years. Readers may have missed the *Police Squad* TV series, as this was also a Paramount offering, and therefore banned in Kuwait.

Starring Leslie Nielsen as the incompetent leader of the squad, this was one of the most hilarious of all comedies, and *The Naked Gun* continues where *Police Squad* left off. Nielsen once again stars as the female interest is provided by Priscilla Presley. The plot is totally surreal and the film is a mix of limited interest to other nationalities brought up on football and cricket. Well-made films however tend to succeed in spite of their subject and after "Bull Durham" and "Field of Dreams," "Major League" starring Tom Berenger and Charlie Sheen is one of the best. It is a gentle comedy with a human touch, which manages to pull back from the game itself to help us understand the personalities behind the sport. In this case, the woman owner of the team wants her over the hill athletes to do their worst so she can move the franchise to the sun belt.

The Americans produce a regular flood of movies about their two favourite sports — American Football and Baseball — which are often of limited interest to other nationalities brought up on football and cricket. Well-made films however tend to succeed in spite of their subject and after "Bull Durham" and "Field of Dreams," "Major League" starring Tom Berenger and Charlie Sheen is one of the best. It is a gentle comedy with a human touch, which manages to pull back from the game itself to help us understand the personalities behind the sport. In this case, the woman owner of the team wants her over the hill athletes to do their worst so she can move the franchise to the sun belt.

I soon learned that even the most basic renovations were extensive. At times I wondered if I hadn't bitten off more than I could chew. Restoring glory was definitely labour-intensive — and cash intensive.

To complicate matters, I was a mere novice at this game. Worse, I

Denzel Washington seems to be one of the most sought after black actors at present with his latest "The Mighty Quinn," following hard on the heels of his last success, "For Queen and Country." "The Mighty Quinn" is set in the Bahamas where Xavier Quinn is the straight-laced chief of police on a remote island. When a white resident is murdered, he finds himself in a very unpopular position, as the prime suspect is a charming if fairly corrupt old schoolfriend. Of course the entire community sides with the elusive Manbee, leaving Quinn totally alone, hoping however that his friend is innocent. The story is complicated by the arrival of a pseudo-CIA operative involved with the theft of recalled dollar bills.

The film has some of the touches of the classic murder mystery, and also the offbeat hipness and intriguing locales. But somehow the components don't quite jell.

This week's best seller is a British series written by the creator of *Upstairs Downstairs*. "Chelworth," however finds the aristocracy very much in decline. When wealthy businessman Michael Anstey (Peter Jeffrey) inherits a title and stately home, his first instinct is to sell up and take the money. But a visit to the house soon changes his mind, and he becomes obsessed with restoring Chelworth, run-

ning the estate as a business and most important, reuniting his family under one roof. The clash between the old and the new money runs through the plot — the old represented by Anstey's wife Virginia, and the new by their wheelchair neighbour Ewan Chivers.

If you're fed up with movies, the

comedy series "Allo Allo" and "Bread" are into a new season, or you can savour Europe retaining their title in the recent Ryder Cup golf.

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Buildings are forever but the lucky house is falling down, you know

By Kathy Cuddlly

Special to the Arab Times

IF it comes to a choice between paper investments and real estate, many people choose the latter. There is something "solid" and reassuring about property — figuratively as well as literally. Stocks and bonds may be fashionable, but buildings are forever. That's more or less the advice that was given to me a long time ago.

Put yer money in bricks and mortar. It's something you can reach out and touch. When the rest of the world is coming apart at the seams, you'll still have bricks and mortar."

The mediocre performance of our share portfolio made me think that perhaps what the old

man said made sense. I went to Ireland, looking for bricks and mortar that had a bit of character. In no time at all, I found "it," the perfect house. The stately Victorian home stood facing a garden square, one of the few residential squares in Dublin. The place had seen better days, but under my determined hand, its renaissance wouldn't be far off. This would be a project I get my teeth into.

I soon learned that even the most basic renovations were extensive. At times I wondered if I hadn't bitten off more than I could chew. Restoring glory was definitely labour-intensive — and cash intensive.

Somehow, despite my initial nerves, every thing that I set out to do got done — in record time, for Ireland. The house gleamed

and looked 20 years younger. The strain of performing miracles left the owner of the house looking and feeling 20 years older.

The completion of phase one of the refurbishments and the exhaustion of my budget almost managed to coincide with each other. I'm not sure which ran out first, my energy or my bank manager's patience. The effort was seemingly worth it, though because the tenants loved living in the house. It was three years before they moved out and I was able to start phase two. This time I wanted to concentrate on aesthetic improvements rather than basic necessities.

The first area of the scrutiny was the garden. I didn't just want

the place landscaped, I wanted to create a restful retreat. This time I lucked onto a genius jack-of-all-trades who successfully worked within my low budget and up to my high standards. Once he had achieved an outdoor masterpiece, he moved indoors.

"Get the upstairs bathroom," I ordered expansively. "Remove that existing nightmare and replace it with discreet elegance."

Everything seemed to be progressing well until I got a phone call from Jack.

"The wall's down, missus."

"Good grief, there weren't any tiles on the ceiling... were there?"

"No, but the leak in the roof weakened the ceiling."

"Let me make an educated guess. Not only will the ceiling have to be replaced, but we're

probably talking about a new roof as well."

"I don't think there is any doubt about it. If you want to do the job right."

By this stage, paper investments were definitely starting to look attractive. As for the old gent's words about "when the rest of the world comes apart at the seams you'll still have bricks and mortar..." from my vantage point the world looked in great shape, but my portions of the bricks and mortar industry didn't look too secure.

Just when all my problems looked like they were finished, the antiquated electrical wiring gave up the ghost.

"It's amazing you haven't had a fire in this place," the electrician announced. That's great news.

When the electrician had finished his major rewiring project he gave the house a fond look and said, "This is a lucky house, you know."

"What on earth would make you say that?" I asked, thinking it was the workmen who were lucky to have the dud like this to keep them employed.

"I used to live in this neighbourhood and every one called it the lucky house."

I should have asked him if it was lucky for tenants or owners. All I know is that the new tenants are delighted to be living there. Hopefully they'll stay for the few years. It will be at least that long before I can afford any further dealings with the lucky house.



Rinet D'Souza celebrates her 6th birthday on October 22. Happy birthday from parents, Janet and friends.

Rinet goes to the Indian School, Abbasia and likes stories and cartoons.



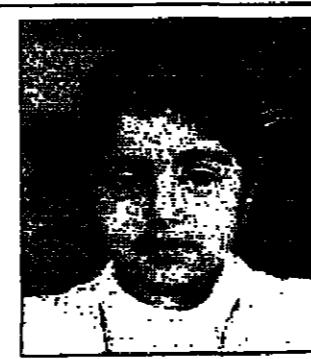
Deepiti Fernandes celebrates her 8th birthday on October 21. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends.

Deepiti goes to the Carmel School and likes drawing, painting and dancing.



Sunitha Rane celebrates her 4th birthday today, October 19. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends.

Sunitha goes to Nursery School and likes jumping, painting and cartoons.



Roopali Chaudhary celebrates her 5th birthday today, October 19. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends.

Roopali goes to the Indian School and likes dancing.



Wasi celebrates his 3rd birthday on October 21. Happy birthday from parents, uncles, aunt and brother Fazal.

Wasi likes watching cartoons.



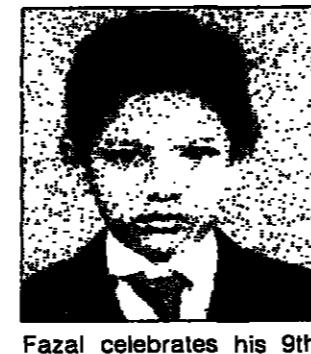
Hari Shankar celebrates his 10th birthday on October 20. Happy birthday from parents, family and friends.

Hari goes to the Indian School, Mangaf and likes painting.



Jimmy Cota celebrates his 4th birthday on October 21. Happy birthday from mama, papa, brother Jazeen and friends.

Jimmy goes to the Indian School and likes book reading and cycling.



Fazal celebrates his 9th birthday on October 22. Happy birthday from parents, uncles, aunt and brother Wasi.

Fazal goes to the Indian School and likes book reading and cycling.



Suhail Ahmed celebrated his 6th birthday on October 17. Belated greetings from parents, family, friends, and uncle Zia.

Suhail likes drawing and writing.



Mohammed Asif celebrated his birthday on October 10. Belated greetings from parents, family, and friends.

Hyder goes to the Indian school and likes dancing, drawing and Karate.



Hyder Busheri celebrates his 5th birthday on October 20. Happy birthday from parents, family, and friends.

Hyder goes to the United Indian School and likes drawing.



Veena Peni Varghese celebrated her 5th birthday on October 17. Belated greetings from parents, family, and friends.

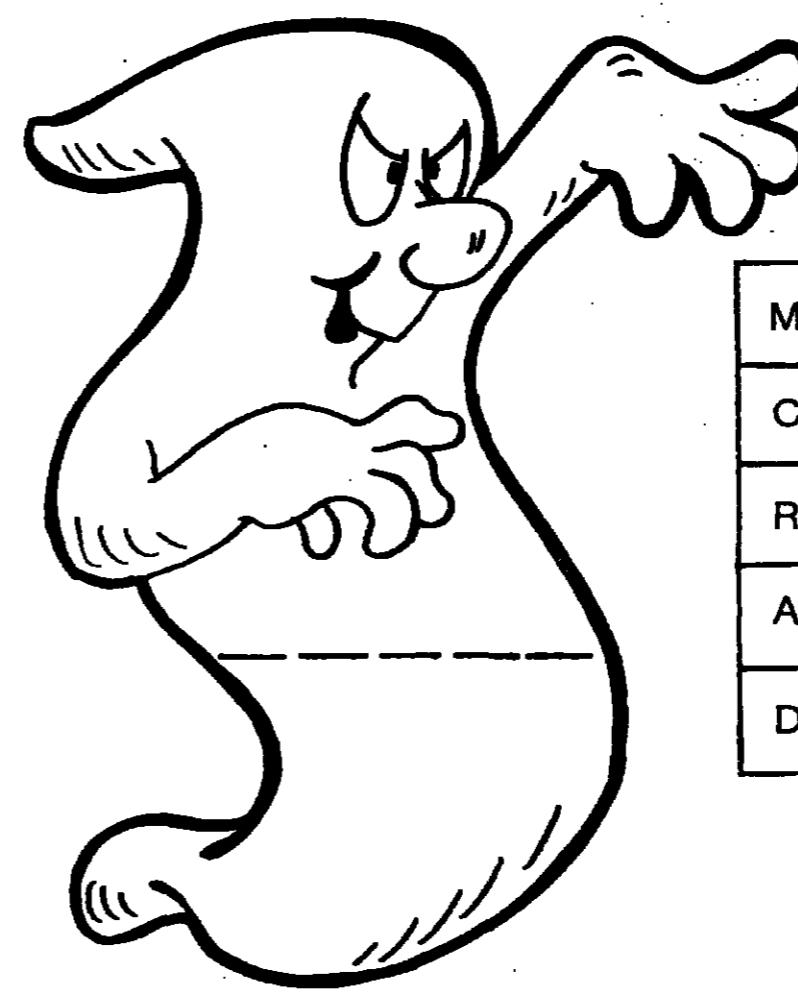
Veena goes to the United Indian School and likes drawing.

A Spooky Message

Directions:

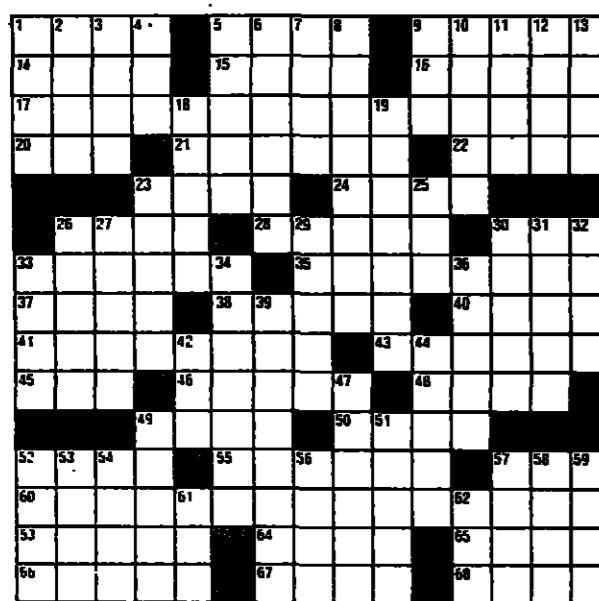
Darken all the squares that contain a consonant. When you have correctly darkened all the squares with consonants you will have formed five large letters. Write the letters on the blanks in the ghost.

L	M	P	S	A	C	A	K	A	M	N	P
G	A	E	Q	E	M	O	B	E	S	U	X
F	U	C	H	I	P	T	D	I	T	I	Z
B	I	A	L	O	R	E	F	O	V	O	R
N	W	K	P	U	S	U	H	U	W	C	N



M	X	B	U	B	K	R
C	I	O	O	U	P	A
R	K	N	I	I	M	E
A	E	P	E	E	L	I
D	Z	Y	A	O	K	O

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Facts and figures
- 5 Seasoning
- 9 Form
- 14 Part of OEM
- 15 Row
- 16 Landed estate
- 17 Octavian
- 20 Cereal grass
- 21 ... dived ... forty-nine
- 22 Become weary
- 23 Laurel
- 24 Way in or out
- 25 Fill up
- 28 Greta —
- 30 ... Sphynxes
- 33 Evile
- 35 Sunday dinner treat
- 37 Indigo plant
- 38 Make happy
- 40 ... boy!
- 41 One who gives back
- 43 Tore
- 45 Before, poetically
- 46 Flower part
- 48 ... Ianthe player
- 49 Annoying one
- 50 Slender initials
- 52 Merchandise
- 55 Nonstick coating
- 57 Roll of bills
- 60 Roman army elite
- 63 Rose essence
- 64 Bird of prey
- 65 Jumping insect
- 66 Slender
- 67 Cincinnati players
- 68 Swell!
- 69 ... animal
- 70 Troops

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

R	I	A	L	G	A	M	M	O	P	E
A	N	K	A	I	D	E	A	M	E	S
P	R	I	M	A	B	A	L	R	I	N
T	E	N	E	M	E	N	T	E	M	E
E	N	E	M	E	N	T	E	M	E	S
E	L	A	N	D	E	N	T	E	M	S
E	L	A	N	D	E	N	T	E	M	S
E	L	A	N	D	E	N	T	E	M	S
E	L	A	N	D	E	N	T	E	M	S
E	L	A	N	D	E	N	T	E	M	S
E	L	A	N	D	E	N	T	E	M	S

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WINNING DEFENSE 66 YEARS AGO

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ 9
♥ 10 9 8 5
♦ A K Q 7
♣ A K J 8

WEST

♦ K Q 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 ♠ J
♥ 7
♦ 10 5
♣ Q

EAST

♦ 6 4 3 2
♥ J 6 4 3
♦ 10 9 7 3

SOUTH

♦ A 10
♥ A K Q J
♦ 9 8 2
♣ 6 5 4 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 2 3 4
1 2 3 4
Pass 5 Pass Pass
7 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

How good were the bridge players of several generations ago? This hand is from Milton Work's *Auction Bridge of 1924*. What surprises us is the note that it was played on a commuter train in 1921!

The game was auction bridge, so the bidding shown is as it might go today. When North shows interest

in a grand slam by confirming possession of all aces and asking for kings, South diagnoses correctly that his solid hearts make shooting for 13 tricks a worthwhile effort.

We venture to claim that most declarers would have little difficulty fulfilling the grand slam. Declarer wins the first trick and ruffs a spade high. On this trick, East must find a discard. If the defender sluffs a diamond, the long card in dummy sets up. Similarly, a club pitch allows declarer to take four tricks in that suit.

The winning defense is for East to discard—a trump! Now declarer cannot avoid losing a minor-suit trick. If South cashes all four trumps, dummy is squeezed before East. East simply discards whichever suit declarer lets go from dummy. If declarer discards a club from the table on the fourth heart, the long club in his hand is established, but there is no entry to the closed hand to cash the trick.

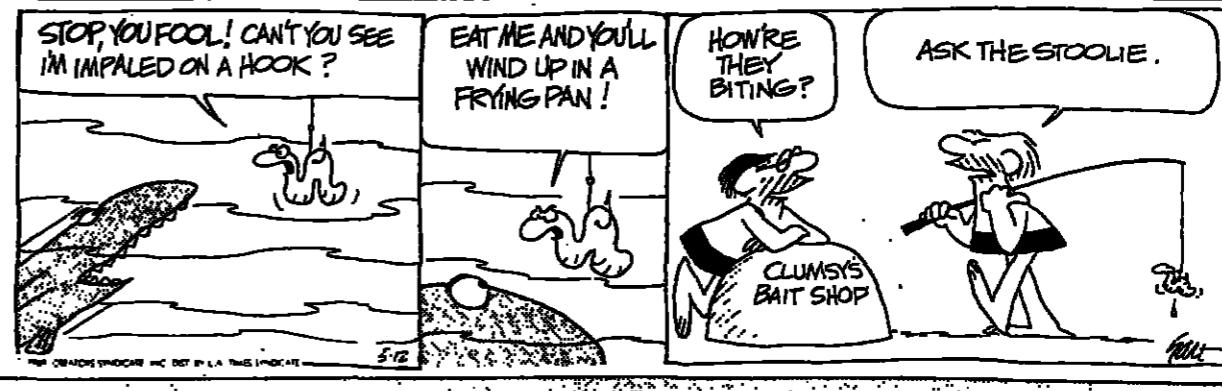
If they could defend that well in a commuter game, we would have dreaded crossing swords with those players at rubber bridge. It might have proved to be an expensive pastime.

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

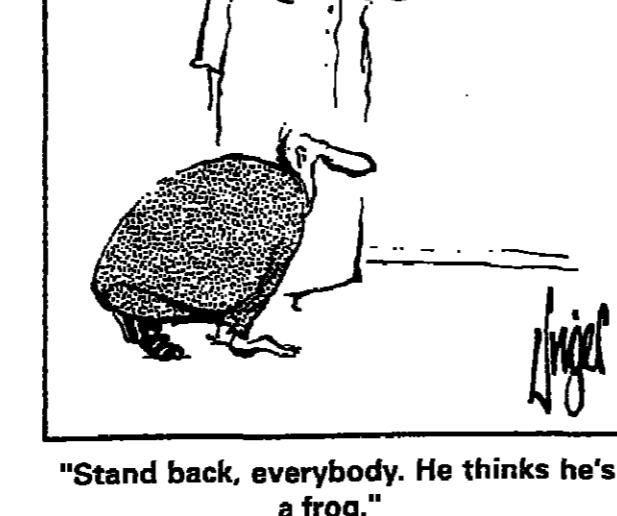
Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)



"Stand back, everybody. He thinks he's a frog."

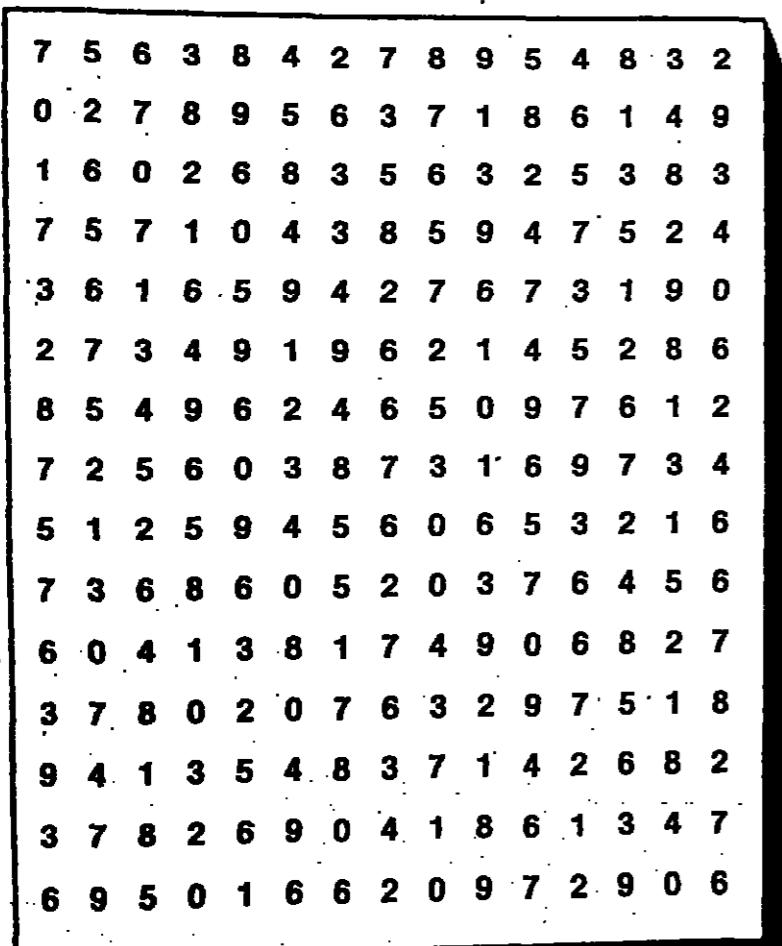
10</p

Word search

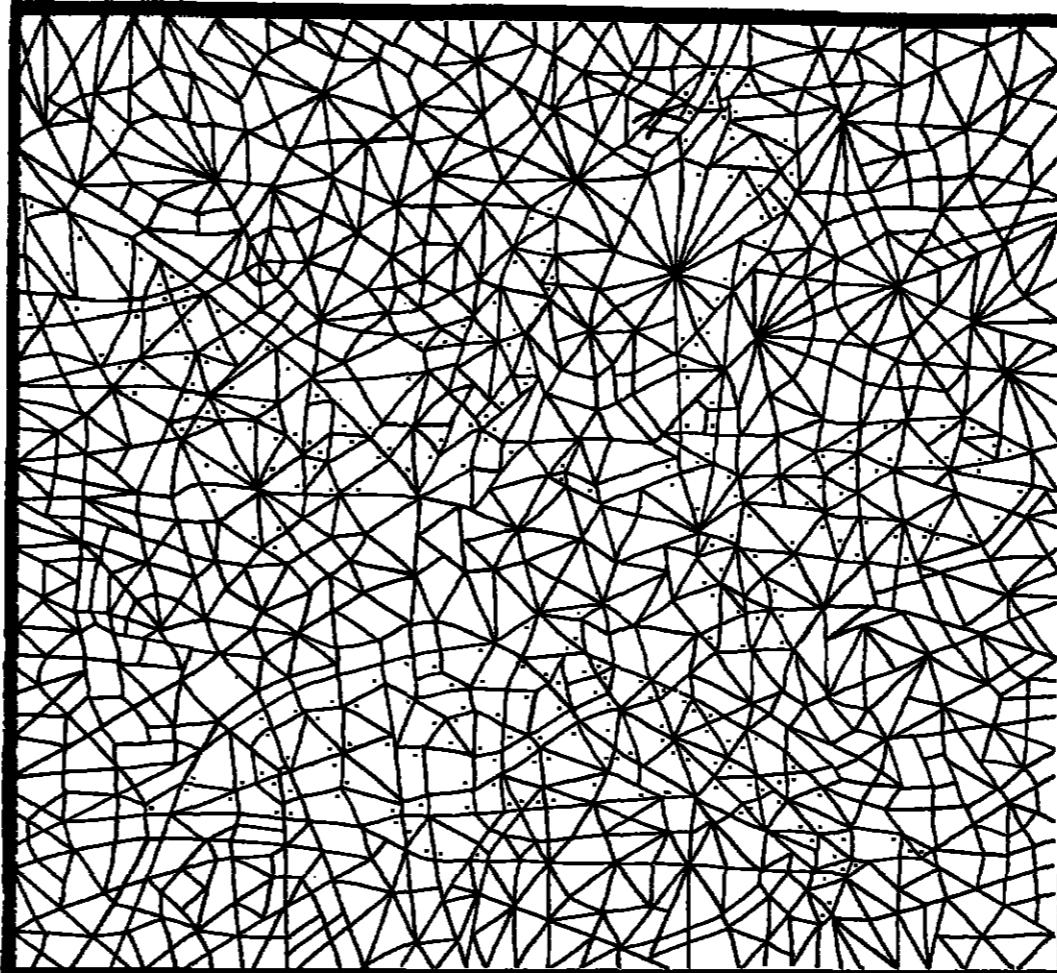
I GOT YOUR NUMBER

We've got your number in this puzzle. Follow our advice from the previous word search and circle your way through the grid. Keep at it; it's really fun!

1406	6729	28766	72015	485639
2371	7518	29340	75638	543170
2560	8228	39218	76390	548371
2906	8605	43859	82667	608715
3214	8765	46891	83345	671030
3764	9680	48185	177342	749657
3782	15318	56320	273491	928609
5236	16620	57639	307646	956371
6587	26846	62145	316973	



Shade the dotted areas to find three hidden creatures. Can you name them?



The Missing Diamond

By Julie Hodgson

THE diamond robber had got away with the famous 'hope diamond' from Rabat. He had taken it, and no one had found out he took it, until the museum was open the next day. The police inspector, found no clues to how he took it, there were no foot alarms set off, he just could not understand it, all they did find was a small bit of rope. The inspector was most puzzled.

He set about searching the museum, on the outside, he went up to the roof, he looked around the edge, but found nothing. He was about to give up when he found a small envelope, no writing on it as such, but a set of numbers?

Meanwhile the robber had booked a plane to Rio, so he could smuggle the diamond in, then try to sell it to the 'dealer' as planned.

The robber went into his pocket to find the secret message he had written to 'the dealer' in Rio, but the shock was too much, he could not find it, he tore into his hand luggage, but to no avail.

The inspector, tore open the envelope, could not decipher it, so took it back to the police station, to 'decode' it.



7 15 20 4 9 1 13 15 14
4. 13 5 5 20 25 15 21 9
14 18 9 15 19 21 14 4
1 25.

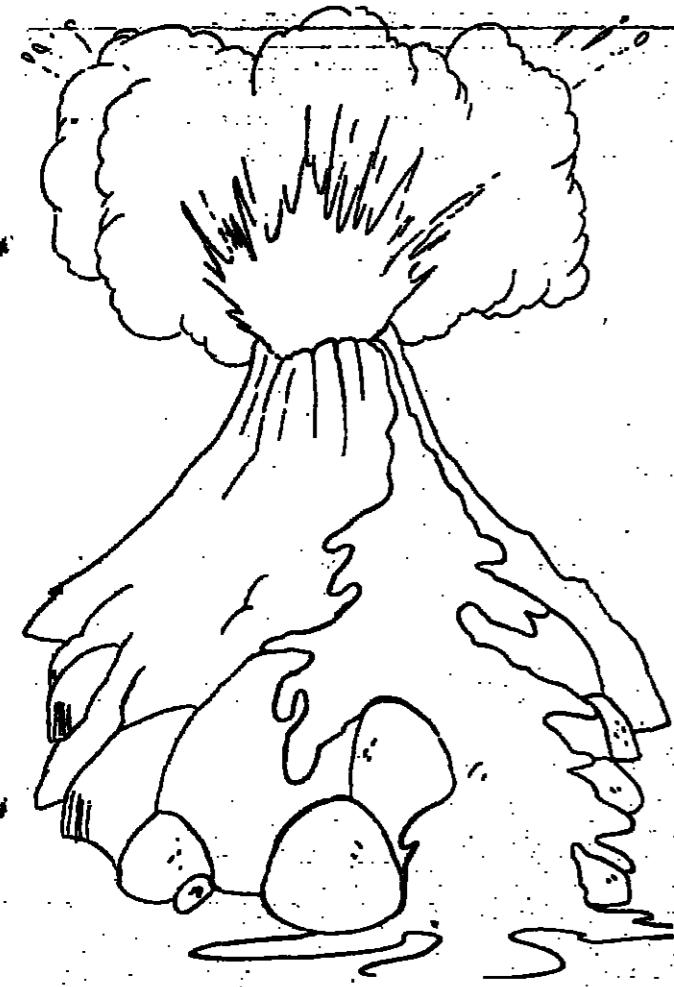
3 1 20 3 8 9 14 7 6 12 9
7 8 20 6 18 15 13
18 1 2 1 20 19 1 20 5

18 15 7 5 18 20 8 5
18 15 2 2 5 18...

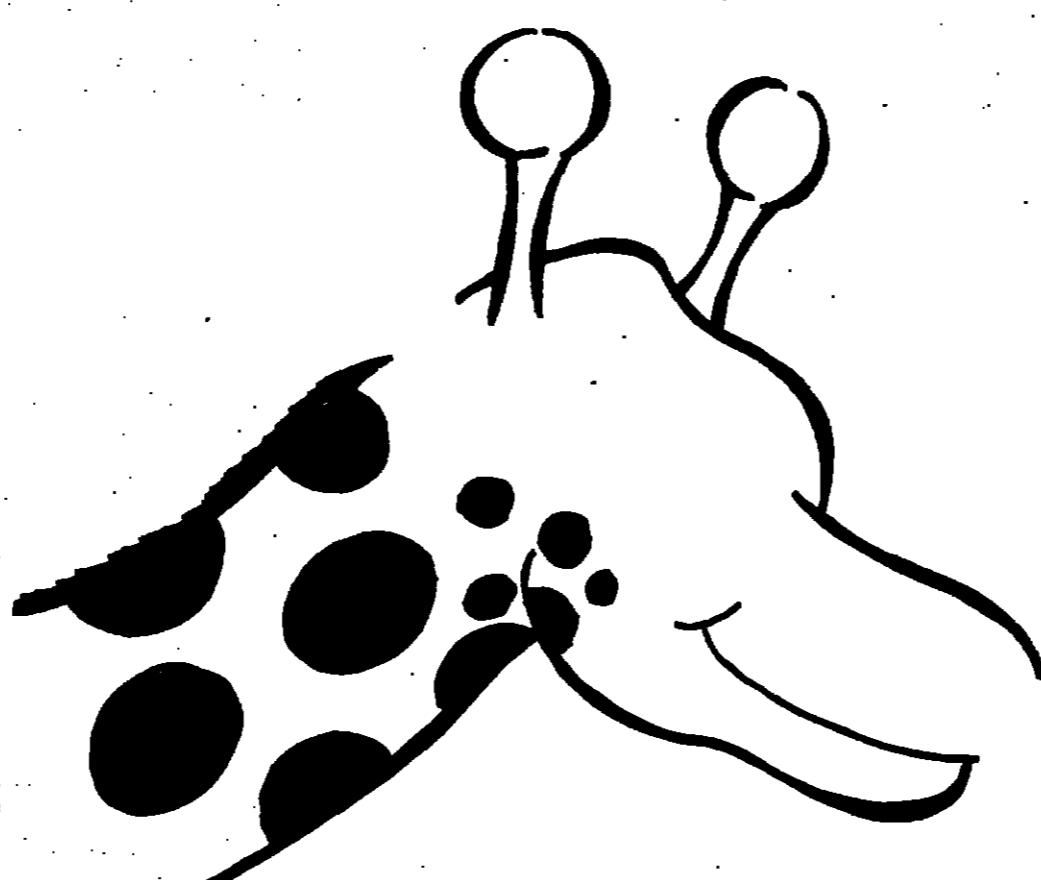
Can you help the inspector to decode the secret message and help him catch the robber???

Can you guess how he did it, when all they found was a bit of rope? Here's how to unlock the code: A = 1 B = 2 and C = 3 and so on right through to Z.

Colouring time



Guess who!



Do you know which animal this is?

Write down its name.

Draw eyes, ears, and a nose on it.

Colour it.

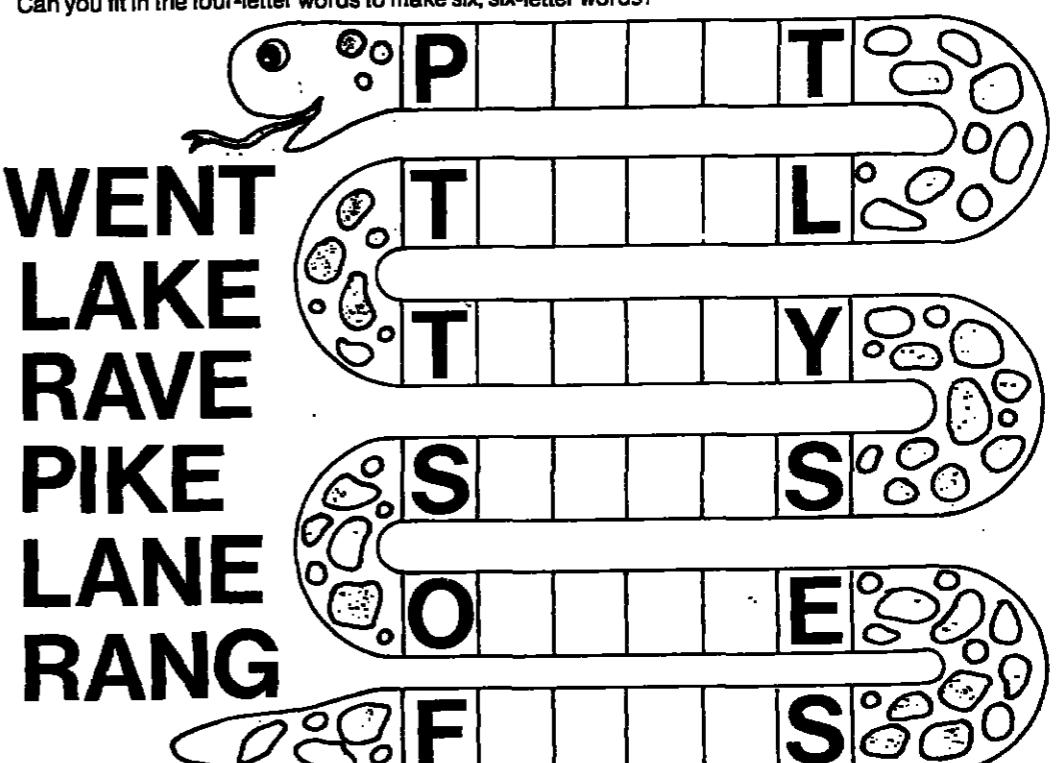
Dear Junior Readers,

On Halloween, the night when, according to folklore, witches, devils, fairies, hobgoblins and all the impish creatures of the earth and air hold their annual holiday, so many many years ago, people lit fires to keep these creatures away, but nowadays, the fires are only used for roasting chestnuts.

It is still traditional to dress up for the famous Halloween parties though, where the famous game of ducking for apples in floating water. These have to be caught between the player's teeth. The size of the apple you catch is supposed to show the size of your future fortune...so good luck!

Manal

Can you fit in the four-letter words to make six, six-letter words?



Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?

Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?

Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!

Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them. The details we need are:

Name: _____

Date of birth: _____

School: _____

Hobbies: _____

Telephone: _____
(confidential)

Send to:
ARAB TIMES

Junior Times
P.O. Box 2270
13023, Safat,
Kuwait

To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date



Last week, as part of the Bharat Mela, many Junior Times readers participated in a fancy dress competition. The competitors came up with stunning outfits, here are a few.



Your
favourite
most
recent
picture
(4x6)

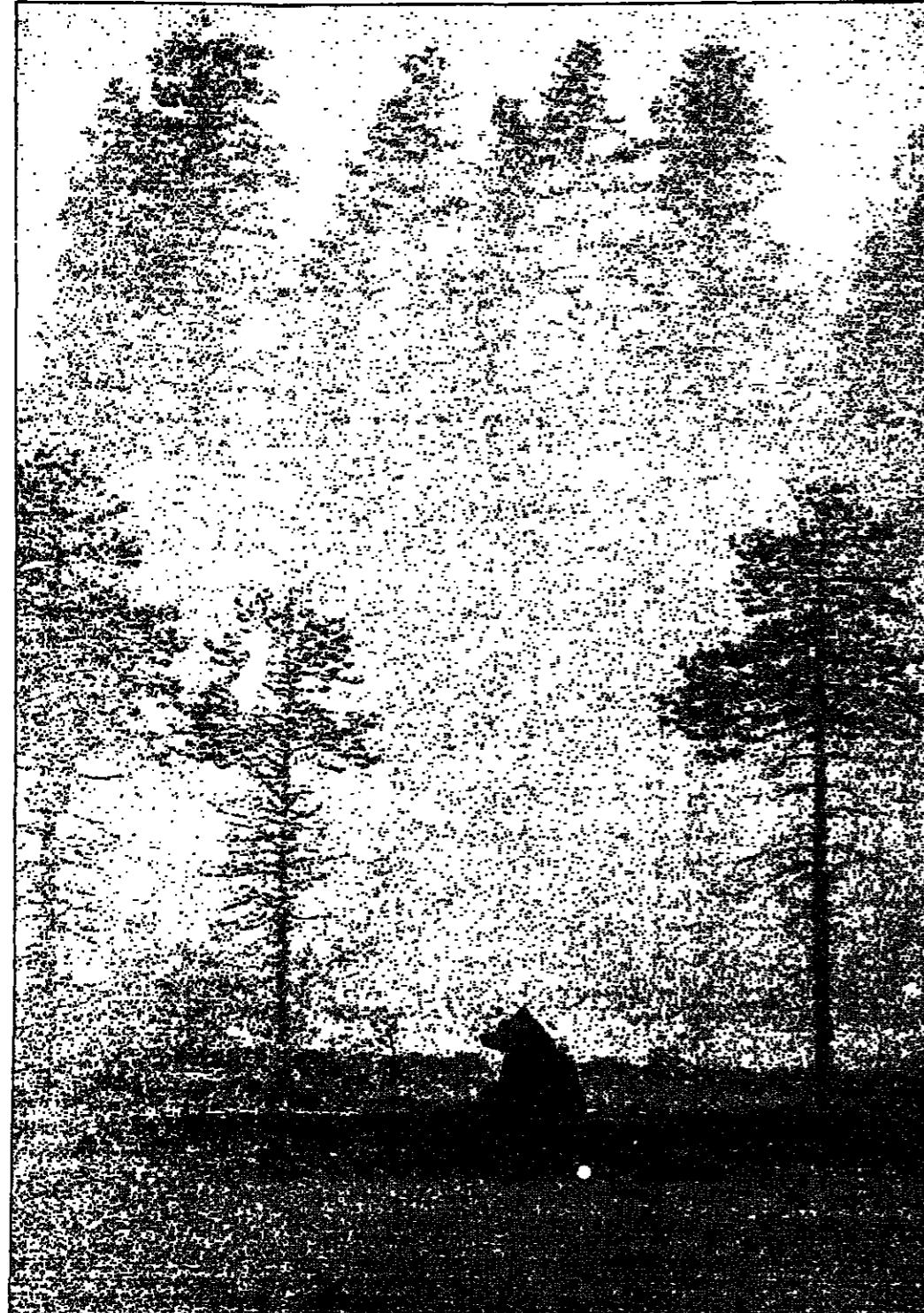


Photo: Bertil Petterson/N

Pictures of the Wild

SWEDES live close to nature. Compared to cities in continental Europe or the United States even Sweden's largest communities are relatively small, and there are always sea or lakes, forests, meadows or marshlands in their immediate vicinity. The centre of Stockholm is only 15 kilometres away from a playground for capercaille.

The main part of the population has been urbanised over the last couple of generations, but the old links with the countryside — cultivated land and wild nature — have not been cut. As a matter of fact, nature continues to play a prominent role in Swedish culture, and the preservation of the country's endowments of wildlife, lakes and mountain areas is increasingly becoming a public concern.

Under the auspices of HM the King of Sweden, the outstanding collection of contemporary Swedish Wildlife and Nature photography will be exhibited at the SAS Hotel in Kuwait.

Dr Farouk Al Omar, Secretary General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters and HE the Ambassador of Sweden to Kuwait will open the exhibition on Saturday, October 21. It will last

for two weeks.

The exhibition is being organised by the Swedish embassy. It will focus on the tradition of genuine unsimplified nature reportage in 59 coloured photographs.

Swedish nature photography tries solely to document the animals in the Swedish environment and to create the genuine atmosphere around the animals. This type of work won widespread recognition among nature photographers in many countries.

The photographs have been exhibited at well-known natural history museums in France, America, Canada and other countries, receiving extensive publication in photographic press.

Most of the photographs have been taken by the Swedish Hasselblad camera which was originally built by Viktor Hasselblad specifically to answer the need of bird photographers.

The exhibition has been produced by the Swedish Institute and the Association of Swedish Nature Photographers.

Jail visits

MEMBERS of the executive board of Flassik and other supporters visited the Filipinos detained at the Daha Abdulla Al Salem Police Station. These visits are under co-ordination between Flassik and the Philippine Embassy's Welfare Office and the office of the labour attaché. Flassik encourage the less fortunate Kafabayan and support them with basic necessities.

Meanwhile, Munira who was confined to Adan Hospital due to maltreatment from her employer will be going home with a healing fracture and compensation.



WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Islamic Art

A SIX week - 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 - 12.00 noon. October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week - eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 - 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Athar during museum hours 8.30 am - 12.30 pm.

SOCIAL

Navalim Youth Centre

NOV 16: A annual get-together night with live music from "Stepping Stones and Top Ranks" having lots more amusements, surprises awaiting at Le Mirage ballroom — Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Contact: Mr Alex — 242634. Mr Marian — 2416945

Star Nite DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping Stones have stepped in and with Perfect Strangers it's going to be a nite to Celebrate Yuletide. Fun fare for children and variety programme for others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until sumptuous buffet mid-night. A galore of prizes by Hamper lucky draws under 555 sponsorship with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel. 5331940. 2413766 Res.

Colva Nite OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ballroom of Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact Tele. 2413884/2434776/56291-41/4310913 after 5 pm.

Deep Dewali

OCT 19, at 7.00 pm: Indian Arts Circle, Funaias. Organised by Satkaar, a musical evening with dances, songs and a brief comedy drama, to celebrate the festival of lights - Deepawali. For invitation cards, contact: Rajpal Tyagi, 5623545; Pushpendra Sharma, 5620810.

British Council

Woody Woodpecker and His Friends: Wednesday, Oct 18 at 6.00 pm; Thursday, Oct 19 at 10.30 pm. Meet the fast-talking Woody Woodpecker and his friends: Buss, Buzzard, Chilly Willy, Wally Walrus and Andy Panda. Join them in their full-filled adventures and have a great time!

Free admission but please book seats by calling: 2515512, 2533204 and 2533227.



SAS Hotel's piano virtuoso

Manny Tupas, SAS Kuwait Hotel's piano virtuoso, plays for guests relaxing in the hotel's plush lobby area early in the evenings. Manny then goes on to entertain guests dining in the Peacock Room and the Bistro restaurant. The proceeds of Halloween

night will be used to fund the vital welfare project of Flassik which has relentlessly given assistance to the unfortunate Filipino workers here.

Guests are encouraged to wear their costumes to the affair to add an aura of mystery to the evening. Aside from a sumptuous dinner and a show featuring a bevy of talents from Flassik friends, a contest among the guests will offer trophies and other valuable prizes to the spookiest costume, the most original costume and most colourful. A special contest will also judge Michael Jackson's look-alike in the best-selling movie — "Thriller." Flassik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias and the Flassik Executive Board promises a very entertaining evening for all Flassik supporters. Tickets are available at KD 5 in various outlets: Bobby's gift shop, Ambassador Store, Kabayan Restaurant, Mabuhay Restaurant, Far East Restaurant, Good Hand Restaurant and Durrani International Exchange.

For more details please contact the event chairperson Flassik Pro Rose Formantes, Veep Chary Nepomuceno Tel: 5624509, Marilyn Inducelo Tel: 3940604 ext. 4521 and 2230; RC Ruiz, Tel: 4819920 or 4849400 ext. 298, Cely Caya, Tel: 3940600 ext. 4118; Evelyn Dungo Tel: 5312700 ext. 4521 and 2269; Malou Jadena, 4892/14, Eva Sabay Tel: 4572549.

British Council

Storytelling session: Oct 26. The British Council will hold a story-telling session on Thursday at 10.30 am. Children of all nationalities, aged 3 to 7, are invited to enjoy the magic of books.

The Education Information Office will be open on Oct 21 and 22 will give detailed information about training in Britain in hotel and catering;

hair-dressing, secretarial studies, beauty therapy and other courses.

Nartans

AS a part of the Nehru Centenary year celebrations "Nartans" stages "Anarkali" ballet at IAC hall on Nov. 9. The popular historical story took place in the year 1600 will be staged with the real Mughal Muslim costumes and style. Admission restricted with passes which are available at Tel: 4337608/2425131/3904817/24-5643126.

Sultan Gallery

A COLLECTION of abstract art by Saudi Arabian artist Faisal Samra is on show at the Sultan Gallery, Samra, who experiments with space and form, is exhibiting for the second time in Kuwait. His first exhibition was in 1987. The show is open Saturday to Thursday from 10 am to 1 pm and 5 to 6 pm, until Nov 15.

Breeze 29

Tivim Centre's Breeze 29 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam Hotel's new ballroom on 26.10.89 at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Highlights include Made For Each Other Contest, a Ball Room Competition and a lot of surprises. For further information please contact Samra or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67, after 3.30 pm.

Ladies International League

THE purpose of LIL is to offer women of all nationalities an organisation in which they can enjoy events and activities and, at the same time, meet women of many nationalities and, in that way, gain an insight to the people and culture of other countries.

As our world becomes smaller each day with the ever increasing speed of travel, who knows when you may be in a

foreign country new to yourself. Hopefully, as a member of LIL, you will have met someone from that country and know a little of its people and their culture.

Accept the challenge to open

yourself up to new friendships and a new year in Kuwait by joining LIL. Attend the informal and fun monthly meetings and join in the social events and activities.

Upcoming events: New-comers meeting: October 30

1989 Surra — For further

information please phone Neera, 3914503 or Dianne, 5335598.

Bazaar: November 2, 1989

(Kuwait International Hotel) Safat Room.

1st 'Big' meeting: November 6, 1989 (Kuwait Regency Palace) Al-Bida' Room.

Watch the Arab Times for

more information on LIL.

Ladies International League

Bazaar: to be held Thursday,

Nov 2 at Kuwait International Hotel, Safat Room, from 10 am to 6 pm. Come and buy handicrafts from all over the world.

Also, tents and Al Assaf Gifts (SAS Hotel) will be there. Raffle and door prizes.

People's Trust Club

DEC 29: People's Trust Club

welcomes you to a day of your life at Ramada Al Salam (Marriott) Hotel, New Ballroom from 10.30 am onwards.

Nimble feet, hungry palate, perfect blend of music and style. A get-together with

buffet. Featuring Stepping Stones, Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers. There will be novelties and surprises galore.

Contact Columbus on 4348218.

Jazz Night

OCT 18: Jazz Night, featuring June Woolston (vocals), at Messiah Beach Hotel, Al Amal, at 8 pm. Also features Highspirts with Jack (tenor, sax). For further details call 5640981.



KTV2, Thursday 9.30 — Just For the Record.

entertainment activities carried out by the Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC) in various parts of Kuwait.

8.45 Young Charlie Chaplin. Charlie realises success is on stage and moves to New York in 1910 where he appears at the Colonial Theatre ... His success is such that Mack Sennett offers him a Hollywood star.

9.30 The Weekend Programme.

10.00 Rosanne. "Dan" returns home hungry where he finds no food ... His wife Rosanne suggests dinner at a restaurant.

10.30 UNSAB. "Daddy Dearest." The C.I.D. carries out its investigations to find out the reason for the murder of Kramer at his house.

11.30 News in brief

11.45 Magazine D'Actualite

CINEMA	
Al Andalus	Arabic film
Al Andalus	Arabic film
Al Salmiyah	Hall booked
Al Hamra	Devil's Three
Drive-In	Arabic film
Al Firdous	Main Tera Dushman
Fahsheej Open	Fahsheej Open
Bandhan Anjana	Bandhan Anjana
Fahsheej	Fahsheej
Teen Tikka	Teen Tikka
Al Jahra	Wild Pair
Arabic film	Granada
Scalpi	Scalpi
Salsabikhat	Salsabikhat
Moonaam Mura	Moonaam Mura
Jleeb	Jleeb
Taxi Chor	Taxi Chor
Ahmed Drive-In	Ahmed Drive-In
Arabic film	Arabic film

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait	
Al Ghanem Pharmacy	
Fahd Al Salam Street	
Al Omar Pharmacy	
Mubarak Al Kabeer Street	
Hawalli and Nogra	
Al Fardous Pharmacy	
Bayroot Street	
Salimiyah and Rumaiyya	
Deens Pharmacy	
Extension of Amman Street	
Fahsheej and Ahmadi	
Al Sheeha Pharmacy	
Sheikh Ahmad Building	
Kheitan	
Al Waha Pharmacy	
Old Kheitan	
Jahra	
Al Nahaj Pharmacy	
Al Jahra Area	

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.33 am
Zohr	11.33
Aср	2.48 pm
Maghreb	8.14
Isha	6.31

FRIDAY

Fajr	4.33 am
Zohr	11.33
Aср	2.47 pm
Maghreb	5.13
Isha	6.30

<h

Graf takes Fendick to task

ZURICH, Oct 18. (Reuters): World number one Steffi Graf completed the formality of first round victory in the European Indoor Tennis Championships yesterday but said afterwards she was more excited by the prospect of watching Diego Maradona play football.

The top-seeded West German registered a comfortable 6-3 6-3 win over American Patty Fendick in the opening round of the \$250,000 tournament she won in 1986 and 1987.

"I am very pleased with the way I played but it was not a real test. I was somewhat impatient at her because she was so slow in serving. I wanted her to get on with it," Graf said.

"I am more excited at seeing Diego Maradona play here tomorrow for Napoli. He is one of my favourites. The schedule has been arranged to make sure I can see the match."

The Argentine World Cup captain and his side take on Swiss club Wettingen in the second round of their UEFA Cup defence on the day Graf plays South African Dinky van Rensburg in the second round.

Fendick, ranked 24th in the world, held her own in the first set but a service break in the sixth game was enough to enable Graf, wielding her devastating forehand, to take the set in 34 minutes.

The West German overcame early problems with her first serve to conclude the match in just over an hour after racing to a 4-0 lead in the second set.

She took four games to love and fired six aces and eight first service winners.

Third seed Helena Sukova eliminated West German Claudia Kobde-Kilch 7-5 6-3 and fifth-seeded fellow-Czechoslovak Jana Novotna accounted for Laura Gildemeister of Peru 6-1 6-2.

Edberg routs Michibata in first round

TOKYO, Oct 18. (Reuters): World number three Stefan Edberg of Sweden gave free rein to his brilliant serve-and-volley game to score a swift victory over Canada's Glen Michibata at the \$627,000 Tokyo Grand Prix tennis tournament today.

Top seed Edberg, whose back-hand passing shots were also on sizzling form, needed only 62 minutes to defeat the Canadian qualifier 6-1 6-3 in a first-round match in which he dropped only one service game, in the second set.

"I'm quite satisfied with the way I played today. I'm moving well on the court," said the former Wimbledon champion, who was surprisingly beaten by unseeded American teenager Jim Courier in the Basle Grand Prix final two weeks ago.

But Edberg, a finalist at this year's French Open and Wimbledon championship, was worried about his second-round match against John Fitzgerald because the Australian defeated him in the Japan indoor tournament semifinals last year.

"It's going to be a difficult match," said Edberg, who has been among the world's top five since 1985.

In other first-round action, Ronald Agenor of Haiti, ranked 39th in the world, had a tough two-and-a-half hour battle to defeat Japan's number one Shuzo Matsuoka 6-7 (4-7) 6-2 7-5.

Candlestick Park and Oakland Coliseum sustain damage

Earthquake hits game three of World Series

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct 18. (AP): The first Bay area World Series was left in limbo last night, with game 3 postponed and Candlestick Park cracked by the devastating earthquake which rocked northern California.

It was doubtful at best that any game would be played before tomorrow. Baseball officials said a thorough inspection of Candlestick would be conducted today to determine if the stadium was structurally sound for the series between the San Francisco Giants and Oakland Athletics to continue.

Adding to the predicament was the fact that the Oakland Coliseum, just eight miles (12 kilometres) away, is in an area that sustained damage at least as severe and maybe worse in the earthquake which struck about 30 minutes before gametime.

No World Series game has ever been postponed except for weather. Even through World Wars I and II, the Series continued despite rosters depleted by players serving military obligations.

A section of the Bay Bridge itself collapsed, and baseball commissioner Fay Vincent said

the extent of damage to Candlestick would not be known until today. No major injuries were reported.

"There's going to be a full structural engineering check of the entire stadium. That means getting people from San Francisco recreation and parks, the county and Major League baseball officials. We will do an in-depth structural examination of every section of this ballpark," said Jorge Costa, vice-president for stadium operations.

"The determination on what we'll do will be made as soon as we can do that examination. We have been trying to contact the necessary people. But we've been unable to get through to them."

"We lost all power in the stadium and all backup power. We lost all water, too. We've had earthquakes before, obviously, but not an earthquake of this magnitude."

One possibility was that the Series would be moved back to Oakland, where the A's won the first two games Saturday and Sunday. Reports on the condition of the Oakland Coliseum were unavailable.

A section in the upper stands in

right field of Candlestick separated by about six inches, and several cracks ran down the concrete aisle and broke off. Fans were carrying them home as souvenirs.

"The people two to three rows in front of me had big pieces of metal several inches, fall on their heads," said David Guzzetti, a city council member from Chico, Calif. "The light towers were just rocking back and forth. I couldn't believe it."

Oakland manager Tony La Russa was sitting in the dugout and at first "thought it was the fans stamping" their feet.

"I heard (Giants batting coach) Dusty Baker yell 'earthquake,'" said Francisco catcher Terry Kennedy said. "I thought he was kidding and just trying to keep things loose."

Kennedy soon found out the earthquake, which measured 6.9 on the Richter Scale and killed over 200 people, was for real.

"I knew something was wrong when I saw the first base dugout moving," Kennedy said. "My first thought was to look for my wife in the stands."

The catcher said the immediate reaction by players from both teams was nervous laughter and remarks. But the seriousness of the situation became clear when the field started to move.

"We found out where the priorities of life are," Kennedy said. "The World Series doesn't mean anything compared to what happened in this city tonight. People were hurt and people lost their homes, it makes me feel sick."

The quake shook buildings in Sacramento, 95 miles (152 kilometres) to the northeast, and was felt as far away as Reno, Nevada, 225 miles (362 kilometres) to the east.

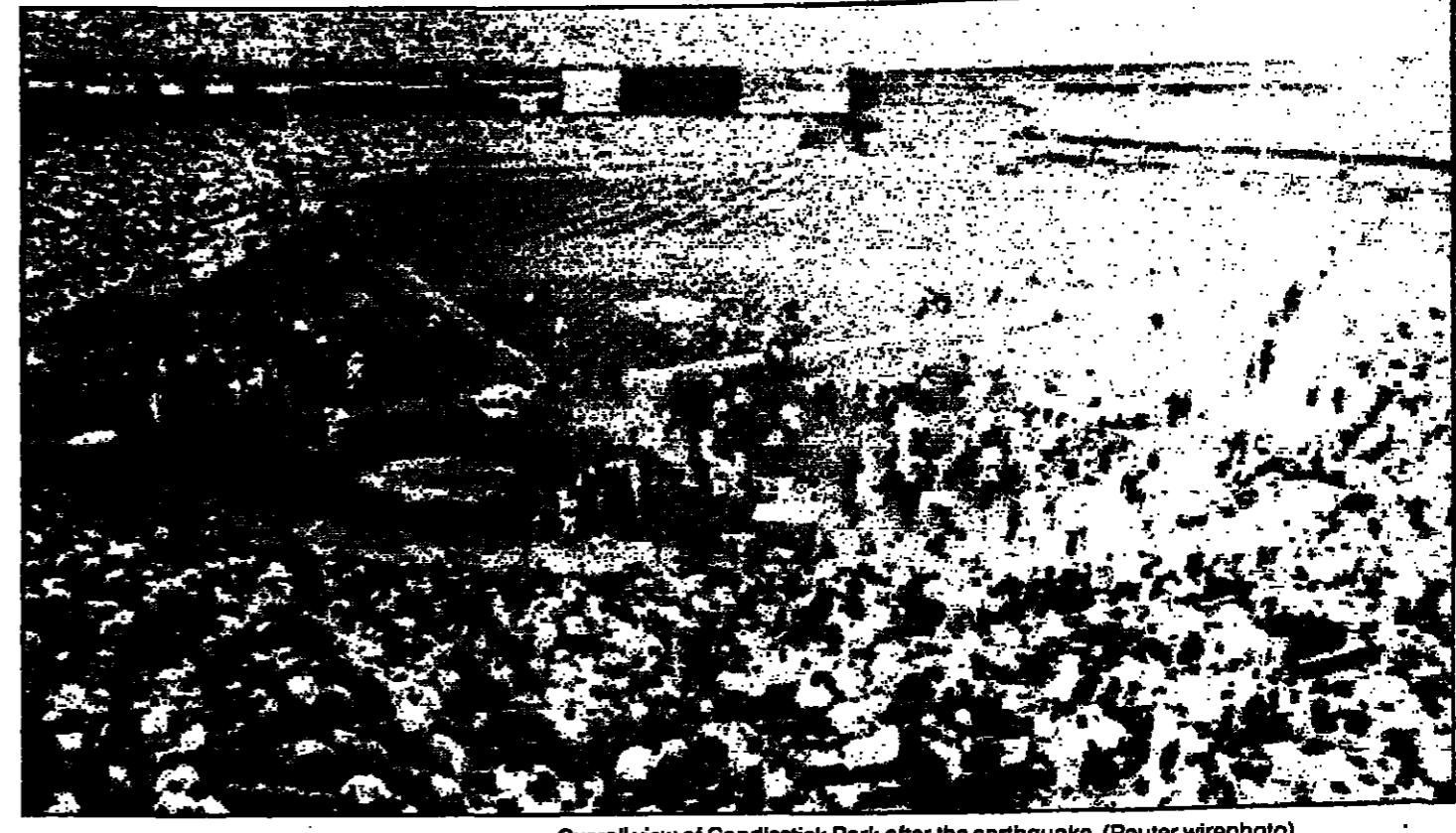
Aftershocks continued at least 45 minutes after the quake struck at 5:05 pm local time (0005 GMT Wednesday). Players stayed on the field for 30 minutes before the game was postponed. Many of them left hand-in-hand with their families.

"You can't stop concrete," Oakland outfielder Dave Henderson said, "forget the World Series."

"I try to be a big tough guy," said 6-foot-3 umpire Eric Gregg, "but I was scared senseless. I couldn't fit under the table and finally I went to stand under some arches."

Oakland slugger Jose Canseco was standing with his wife when the tremor hit. He said he looked up at fans yelling at him and thought, "jeez, look at that. They still want me to play."

"I just want to get my family out of here," said Giants pitcher Mike Krukow, who was holding



Overall view of Candlestick Park after the earthquake. (Reuter wirephoto)

his 2-year-old son, Chase. "All the kids were scared and so was I. It almost knocked me down."

Giants manager Roger Craig, still in uniform, got behind the wheel of his pickup truck and left with eight family members and friends in the back and three more jammed into the front.

Hall of Famer Willie Mays also darted to his car with his wife and friends.

"I was scared," said Mays, who was on the field doing an interview with Joe Morgan at the time of the quake.

Vincent, who became commis-

sioner last month when A. Bartlett Giannetti died of a heart attack, sat in a motor cart near home plate in the aftermath of the earthquake.

"You get paid to be calm," Vincent said.

He said he was standing in front of his seat when the tremor hit.

"The ground started to shake, and I shook with it."

Oakland catcher Terry Steinbach was seen on the field comforting his crying wife.

"The stadium must be checked



An unidentified woman reacts to the shaking. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mansell to take part in Japan race

SUZUKA, Japan, Oct 18. (Reuters): Briton Nigel Mansell's return after his one-race ban could provide his future Ferrari team-mate Alain Prost of France with a third World Drivers' Championship at this weekend's Japanese Grand Prix.

Mansell, banned after being disqualified in the black flag controversy at last month's Portuguese Grand Prix, is the only driver to have outraced world champion Ayrton Senna this season and is likely to pose the strongest threat to the Brazilian's bid for victory on Sunday.

Senna, who won the title on the twisting figure-of-eight circuit last year, needs to win to prevent his rival and McLaren team-mate Prost taking the championship. Only a victory for Senna can deprive the Frenchman of the title.

"I know what I have to do and that is to win the remaining races," said Senna. "I shall try my hardest to do that, but it will be very difficult of course. But I shall not give up until it is impossible for me to retain my title."

Senna's extraordinary determination and undoubted driving skills, particularly in qualifying, enabled him to dominate the Spanish Grand Prix at Jerez three weeks ago and keep alive his championship challenge.

Assuming he can produce the same level of performance in Honda's back yard — the Japanese engine makers who supply the power units for his McLaren car own the Suzuka circuit — Senna is capable of taking the title showdown to the season's final race in Adelaide.

But, as Senna has tacitly acknowledged in his reaction to Mansell this season, the British Ferrari driver remains the one real threat to his ambitions and Prost's biggest hope of capturing a third championship.

Mansell comprehensively outwitted Senna in Hungary in August and was on the way to what looked like another certain victory in Portugal last month before the pair collided.

Mansell, having given up his appeals against the disqualification, fine and ban, now wants only to race, in the hope of erasing memories of the wrangles of the last few weeks.

In that mood and in a car which has brought both him and his Austrian team-mate Gerhard Berger a run of impressive results since mid-season, Mansell may hold the key to the outcome of the championship.

Pakistan favourites for Nehru Cup

NEW DELHI, Oct 18. (Reuters): With their convincing triumph over West Indies and India in the Sharjah Cup, Pakistan will start favourites for the six-nation Nehru Cup which resumes in India tomorrow.

But with a punishing total of 17 matches to be played in the next 14 days, it will be stamina and freedom from injury that will be the main decider.

Already the Sharjah tournament has taken its toll, particularly on West Indies and Pakistan with the captains of both teams, as well as other

players, naged by injury.

Pakistan skipper Imran Khan is suffering from back strain which affected his bowling in Sharjah and all-rounder Wasim Akram and vice-captain Javed Miandad have similar problems.

West Indies captain Viv Richards damaged a finger in Sharjah and missed the final match there as did fast bowler spearhead Malcolm Marshall. Their continued absence would be a further blow for a side already demoralised after winning only once in Sharjah

where they had been champions for the previous three years.

With the Nehru Cup venues

scattered across this huge country many of the rest days will be taken up with tiring journeys.

Such is the tightness of the

schedule that West Indies will be on a cricket field within hours of arriving in the country. They were due in Bombay late today and scheduled early the following morning to fly to Rajkot for a nine am (0330 GMT) start against Sri Lanka.

Jahangir may retire

SINGAPORE, Oct 18. (UPI): Jahangir Khan, the greatest squash player of all time is closer to the end of the line after injuring himself during his defeat against Chris Dittmar that cost Pakistan the world team title here yesterday.

The 25-year-old from Karachi admitted today that he hurt his right ankle during his second defeat in two weeks to the left-handed Australian and has always had a history of injuries recently and if that might quit next year if injuries continued to bother him.

So far during 1989, the world number one has had trouble with a knee and an arm. As well as his ankle and also returned to the circuit late August heavier than at any time in his career.

"If it goes on like this then this will be my last year," said the man who once won five and a half years unbeaten and who holds the record

of six world titles.

It is certain that Jahangir will continue until April to try to take the outright record of nine British Open titles after which he would have no remaining major ambitions in the game.

"I would like to carry on for as long as possible because this is my profession," he says. "But I have had injuries recently and if I get more of them, then that would cause me to stop competing."

Jahangir was notably careful not to worsen yesterday's injury by stretching too much in the front part of the court after damaging the ankle in the second game of a 6-9, 9-5, 9-3, 9-0 defeat.

He was also cautious not to take the credit away from his skillful opponent, even though the Pakistani felt he had to stop running altogether in the fourth game of the match.

Ward triumphs twice

BOB WARD, sailing a Fanatic Ultra Cat with a 7.5m² sail on the third day of the Autumn Series of the Messilah Beach Windsurfing Club, clearly won both races.

With the windless conditions yet again favouring the lighter sailors, heavyweight Ward took advantage of his strength and experience to pump his way around the Olympic triangle course.

Ward's equipment has not won all the six races in the series, as the previous four races were won by Ladislao Pasco borrowing Ward's Mistral Competition SST raceboard.

The current leaders are as follows:

Unlimited class

1. Steve Kelly 9-1/4, 2. Bob Ward 14-1/2, 3. Mike Quinn 22-3/4, 4. Bob Green 23

6.5m² limited class

1. Ladislao Pasco 5-3/4, 2. Stevie Hutchinson 17-3/4.

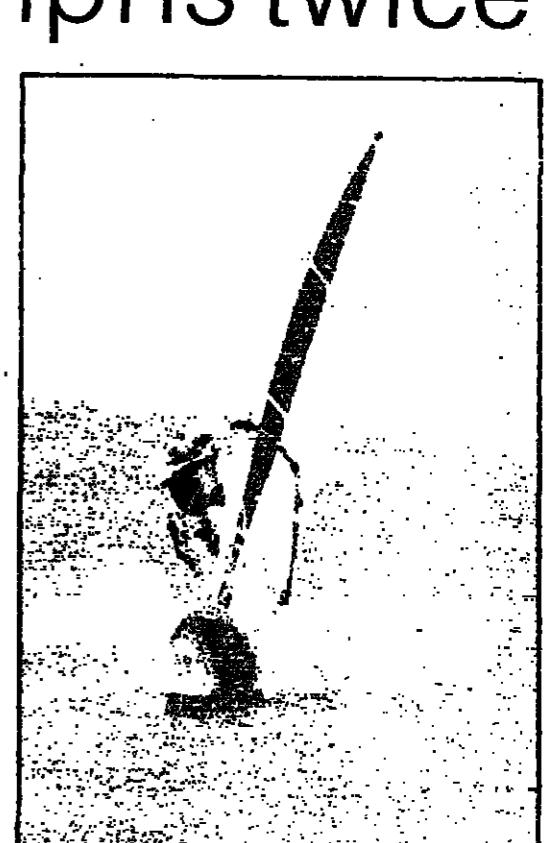
Novices class

1. Tony Walker 7-3/4, 2. Andre Lindren 22, 3. Dave Peckham 23-3/4, 4. Brian Ashwell 27, 5. Fouad Harakeh 28

Bob Ward or Radical Robert as he is nicknamed must be having his most successful month in over four years of windsurfing, having also recently become Masters champion and overall 2nd in the Messilah Classic.

However, Ward has still a lot to do to win his class as Steve Kelly on his new Mistral Equipe (sponsored by the Sultan Center) is consistently getting good results and is still in first place.

The final regatta of the autumn series is Nov 3. Anyone who wants to join the Messilah Beach Windsurfing Club should contact Bob Green, tel. 4896000 ext. 3943.



Ward: on his way to victory

JIM GOULD took both the overall and handicap titles this week after the concluding races of the Messilah Beach Hotel Laser Club Autumn Series on Friday.

The first race of the day brought a shock to the regular front runners as soon after the start, Thomas Curanz began to overhaul the boats ahead of him. With only one lap to go the remaining helmsman still in front was Jim Gould, out to consolidate his titles, however the last beat saw a change to the order as Thomas overcame Jim to take line honours.

For the first time the regular format of a triangle and sausage course was not used, instead the course set was square with an extended beat leg, with the aim of testing more points of sailing.

A good turn out of eleven boats jockeyed for position on the start line in light winds and a surprisingly strong current, causing most helmsmen to get off to a slow start, after which most chose to head inshore to avoid tidal effects. Jim Gould broke away to an early lead that appeared insurmountable, with Phil Shepherd, then Thomas Curanz some way behind. Dave Clark made a strong charge through the field having fallen out of his boat and arriving sixth

at the leeward mark, but couldn't catch the flying Thomas or Jim, and so had to settle for third across the line. Once again Jim Gould

took the lead at the start of the race, only to have it taken from him by Thomas, proving that his morning's performance was no fluke, gaining speed and extend-

ing his lead as the remainder of the fleet slowed to a laboured procession, with little drama in the lighter winds. Thomas out-sailed everyone to take line honours, with Jim a solid second amassing enough points over the series to take both titles. Third across the line was Ken Young, giving him his best result ever.

The conclusion of the autumn series sees the overall title going to Jim Gould, with the best aggregated results, with Ian Smith second and Roger Brown taking third place.

SPORTS BRIEFS

British soccer

LONDON, Oct 18, (Reuter): Results of British soccer matches played yesterday.

English Division Two

Barnsley	1	Sheffield U	2
Hull	0	Oldham	0
Plymouth	3	Leicester	1
Portsmouth	3	Southampton	3
Stoke	2	West Brom	3
Swindon	0	Oxford	0
Watford	2	Bournemouth	0
Wolves	2	Port Vale	0
		English Division Three	
Brentford	1	Bolton	2
Bristol City	2	Notts County	2
Bury	3	Swansea	1
Cardiff	1	Bristol R	0
Cheltenham	2	Birmingham	0
Huddersfield	4	Blackpool	0
Northampton	0	Crewe	2
Prudhoe	3	Fulham	2
Reading	5	Leyton	2
Rotherham	0	Shrewsbury	2
Walsall	2		
		Division Four	
Burnley	1	Leeds	2
Cambridge	1	Dover	1
Carlisle	0	Sunderland	1
Chesterfield	4	Halifax	3
Colchester	1	Wrexham	0
Grimbly	2	Gillingham	0
Keswick	1	Exeter	0
Torquay	4	Harlepool	0
Yokohama	2	Aldershot	2

KIFF soccer

THE 1988-89 soccer season of the Kuwait Indian Football Federation (KIFF) comes to a close at the Sour Grounds tomorrow, 6.30 am, as four teams battle for supremacy and the KIFF Super League and the Rolling Trophy. The teams in contention are Salcete United, Goo Cultural Association, Incredible Sports Club and Starlite Goans. The games which will be supervised by the Indian Football Referees' Association, will be played simultaneously on adjacent grounds.

Former champion

LONDON, Oct 18, (AP): Former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali jokes about fighting current champ Mike Tyson, admitting his time in the ring and in the spotlight is over. "The days of wine, women, song, press conference are over. I've had all that," said the 47-year-old Ali, who ended a news conference yesterday by complaining to reporters, "I'm so boring."

Gymnastics title

STUTTGART, West Germany, Oct 18, (Reuter): A rare perfect mark for Valentin Mogilyov helped defend champions the Soviet Union win the team title at the World Gymnastics Championships for the seventh time yesterday.

Olympic job

BUDAPEST, Oct 18, (Reuter): Britain's Princess Anne, tipped as a possible challenger for the leadership of the Association of Summer Olympic Sports Federations (ASOIF), as described yesterday by a senior athletics official as too inexperienced for the job.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hubra Bridge Club games held on Saturday:

1. Mousali & Ahmed Tawfiq

2. Nabil Abo & Amr

3. Shad Suliman & E. John

E/W

1. Fund Sayman & Majid

2. Mrs Ferreira & Mr D'Souza

3. Lollo Muthwaite & Dona Matanya

Results of the Dunhill Bridge Tournament (2nd week) held at the Messiah Beach Hotel on Monday:

1. N. Dosa Matanya & Wojtek

2. Dr Adel & Sharif

3. Simon & Salman Ali

E/W

1. Ahmed & Tawfiq

2. Vasudevan & Krishnaswamy

3. Tomar John Berkley

N/S

1. Mrs Mousali & A. Tawfiq

2. Dr. Zainab & Qatani

3. Mousali & Zanouri

E/W

1. Laila & Harris

2. Ravi & Mulherjee

3. Nizar & Haque

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Shilton's shadow hangs over English goalkeeping

LONDON, Oct 18, (Reuter): If there is one English footballer who could walk into any World Cup team at next year's finals, it would be Peter Shilton.

Dependable as ever at 40, Shilton showed against Poland last week he will have a critical bearing on the extent to which England prosper in the final series in Italy.

What happens if the great man is injured is a question few in the England hierarchy are prepared to contemplate.

against the fast-rimming Poles and the player himself believes he can stay at the top for three more years.

Suddenly, however, more than one respected voice has suggested that Shilton's confirmed monopoly in the English goal might actually be counter-productive.

Shilton's agility and judgement saved his side from considerable embarrassment

Ray Clemence, Shilton's contemporary who won 61 caps in goal for England at a time when the two players made alternate appearances, knows more than anyone the importance of having a capable understudy available should the unthinkable happen.

"A World Cup quarterfinal is no place for an inexperienced goalkeeper," he said, evoking memories of a painful precedent for

England fans.

In 1970 when the revered Gordon Banks went sick before England's quarterfinal against West Germany in Mexico, poor Peter Bonetti, no mean goalkeeper but short of experience in the cauldron of international soccer, received much of the blame for defeat.

An injured finger or a stomach upset in Italy could easily sideline Shilton at a crucial

stage and, to date, current England manager Bobby Robson has given little indication that the Bonetti saga could never happen again.

England's other squad goalkeepers are David Seaman of Queen's Park Rangers, who made his only full appearance in a 1-1 draw against Saudi Arabia in November 1988, and Chelsea's Dave Beasant, an unconventional giant who has yet to progress beyond the substitutes bench.

study for five years but has played only seven full games for his country and is now 30 years old.

England's other squad goalkeepers are David Seaman of Queen's Park Rangers, who made his only full appearance in a 1-1 draw against Saudi Arabia in November 1988, and Chelsea's Dave Beasant, an unconventional giant who has yet to

Dortmund held to draw

Sampdoria score late goal

DORTMUND, West Germany, Oct 18, (Agencies): A late mistake cost Borussia Dortmund a victory over Italian club Sampdoria in the European Cup Winners Cup last night, as the West German's settled for a 1-1 home draw in the first leg of the second round.

Dortmund's chances of reaching the third round nosedived as an error by fullback Thomas Kroth left Sampdoria striker Roberto Mancini free in front of Dortmund's goalmouth in the 88th minute. Mancini fired over. Dortmund keeper Wolfgang de Berr to earn the 1-1 draw.

A bewildered Andreas Moeller spoke for his whole team minutes after match.

"We played well, so it's all the more irritating to get a late goal," he said.

Dortmund had several good chances in the first half of the match, marred by several fouls, but seemed too nervous, despite the support of more than 40,000 fans.

Midfielder Michael Schulz, serving a suspension in the West German League, came to a fine header after a cross by Martin Driller in the 32nd minute, but Sampdoria keeper Paginica denied him a goal.

Scottish international Murdo MacLeod was outstanding for Dortmund, delivering one of his best midfield performances yet for his West German club.

But Dortmund found itself baffled by Sampdoria's attack, led by strikers Gianluca Viali and Roberto Mancini.

As Dortmund's efforts abated 20 minutes into the first half, Sampdoria bounced back. Defender Carboni missed the goal by inches after a superb solo in the 28th minute. Viali, who otherwise did not give an outstanding performance, stretched for the ball but came too late to



Dortmund's Frank Mills (left) dribbles around Sampdoria's Pietro Mannini. (Reuter wirephoto)

net.

The start of the second half saw Sampdoria's pushing hard to break Dortmund's resistance with an early goal.

Dortmund survived unscathed, cut itself loose and pushed ahead with captain Michael Zorc's fine header in the 60th that provoked a superb save by Sampdoria's Paginica.

Four minutes later Dortmund's Juergen Wegmann pushed the ball across the line in ahead of the defense on Monaco goal Jean-Luc Ettori. The first time Bonan was on the left flank and shot from about 15 metres out and was wide in the 55th minute.

Five minutes later Bonan had

a fairly clear path in front of Ettori, but his shot lacked power and Ettori handled it easily.

Monaco put up two final attempts in the last 10 minutes. Marcel Dib booted a fine drive that Dynamo goalie Bodo Rudwaleit knocked down at eye level. Two minutes later Fabrice Poulin advanced but Rudwaleit got in the way.

In the first half, Monaco had the better chances but failed to get any past the Dynamo goalie. In the 25th minute Ramon Diaz had a free kick that got past the East German wall but faltered near the net.

Five minutes later George Weah, who starred in the last Monaco European Cup game when he scored twice and assisted on another, was able to get a good leg on the ball while being bothered by a defender. But the kick was gobble up by goalie Rudwaleit.

In Belgium, Antwerp beat Dundee United of Scotland 4-0 (3-0) in the first leg of the second round in the European UEFA Soccer Cup last night.

Handicapped German midfielder Ralf Geilenkirchen opened the score at 21 minutes. Geilenkirchen had twisted an ankle, and it had been uncertain whether he would play.

Dutch midfielder Frans Van Rooy, coming back after a suspension, scored again one minute and 8 minutes later to give Antwerp a 3-0 lead at half-time.

Nico Claesen completed the Belgian victory with a fourth goal at 63 minutes.

In Austria, Vienna and Olympiaakos of Piraeus, Greece played to a 2-2 (1-1) draw in a first-leg, second-round match in the UEFA Soccer Cup. The result meant that the Austrians are unlikely to make it into the third round.

BANGKOK, Oct 18, (Reuter): Luisito Espinosa of the Philippines took the World Boxing Association (WBA) bantamweight title from Khaokor Galaxy of Thailand today when the referee stopped the fight after an extraordinary collapse by the champion in the first round.

Espinosa caught the stocky, hard-hitting Thai with three sharp lefts to the head in the first minute of the fight, but none was apparently hard enough to stun him.

As the fighters shaped up for another exchange, however, the 30-year-old Thai collapsed backwards, his head bouncing on the lower ropes, and referee Enzo Montero of Venezuela immediately signalled the fight was over.

"I don't know what happened. I just blacked out," Khaokor said after being helped to his feet.

It was the first crack at the title for the California-based Espinosa, 22, who was ranked ninth. Although the Filipino landed a few good blows, neither he nor Khaokor, who usually starts slowly, had a chance to get into a rhythm.

Khaokor, whose twin brother Khaosai holds the WBA junior-bantamweight title, had regained his crown by battering South Korea's Moon Sun-Kil to a points defeat in July.

It was the first time a Thai had failed in a championship fight at Bangkok's Rajadamnern stadium, whose packed crowd was stunned by Khaokor's sudden collapse.

MUC took the Kuwaiti British Readymix Company (KBRC) Trophy after beating Goa Seven in the finals of the 5th Annual Seven-a-Side Football Festival, organised by Boys Own Club at the Sour grounds earlier this week.

A total of 15 teams took part in the one-day event with MUC beating Rebels in semifinals and Goa Seven defeating Mangalore.

The final produced no scores in the normal time and the game went into a tie-breaker from which MUC emerged victorious.

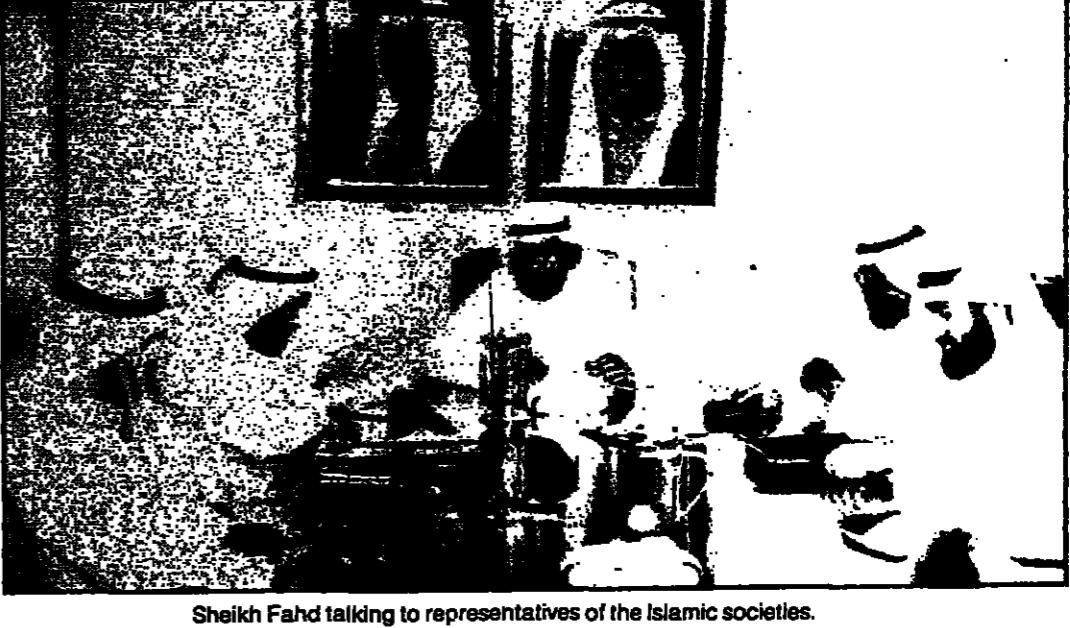
V.K. Vohra, president of Blue Wings Sports Club was the chief guest and gave away the prizes. John D. Silve was given the Man of the Match award. The referees were also given medals.

A large holiday crowd stayed at the Sour grounds until the end of the event to see the football festival.

The MUC captain (right) receives the trophy from V.K. Vohra.



The MUC captain (right) receives the trophy from V.K. Vohra.



Sheikh Fahd talking to representatives of the Islamic societies.

Libya to attend Games

LIBYA has decided to participate in the Peace and Friendship Games, scheduled to be held in Kuwait from Oct 30-Nov 12. Libya's participation in the Games was announced by the Higher Organising Committee for the Championships.

Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, the deputy chairman of the organising committee, welcomed this announcement and said that all the Islamic countries will now be taking part in the event. Malaysia had also confirmed its participation on Monday, bringing the total number of countries attending the Games to 45.

Sheikh Fahd was instrumental in persuading Libya to come to Kuwait for the event. Libya will take part only in the athletic meeting.

The deputy chairman also had a meeting yesterday with the representatives of all the sports clubs. Sheikh Fahd thanked all the clubs for the support they were extending to the

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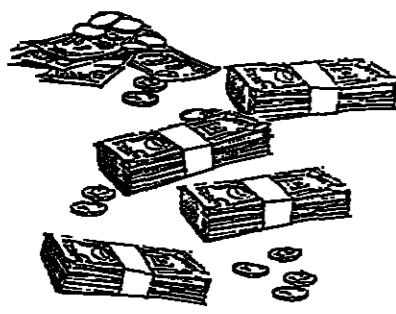
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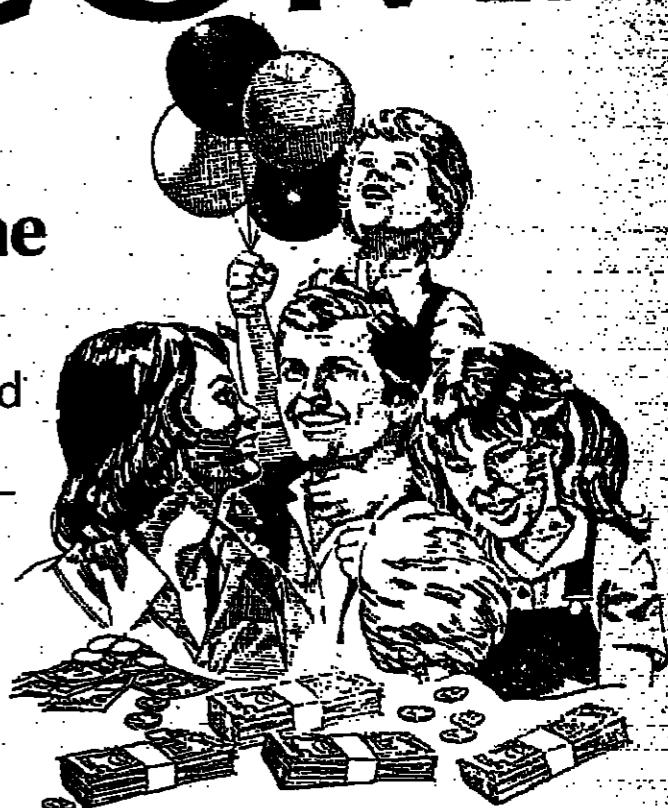
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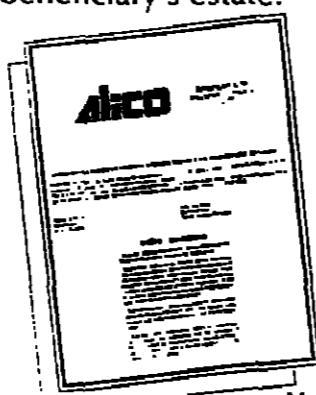
And these major cash benefits are available at surprisingly modest rates!



Each Spouse Can Protect the Other:
For added safety each marriage partner can be covered. You can name each other as beneficiary, or name your children. A child beneficiary under 18 (at the time of accidental loss of life of the insured) receives benefits for 20 years. Every monthly check will be as much as \$3,000 each.

20 YEARS GUARANTEED MINIMUM

In the event of the loss of life of the beneficiary before receiving the Total Minimum Cash Income (20 years), the balance will be paid to your beneficiary's estate.



You Have
No Obligation. You Can
Examine Your Policy Yourself For 10
Days, With No Risk, No Obligation
and No Cost To You.

BENEFITS WILL BE PAID ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

Your beneficiary or you will receive the monthly income at the country of residence, anywhere in the world.

YOUR PERSONAL INSURANCE COVERCARD



Applying before midnight of **October 31, 1989**, you will receive your policy and your ALICO Insurance Covercard that gives you discounts at contracted outlets around the Gulf.

Your policy will be issued within 24 hours from the moment we receive it. If you wish to save time, mail or deliver your reservation today, or just call your ALICO agent – he will be happy to welcome you and answer all your questions, without any commitment.



AIG Head Offices – New York

THE COMPANY THAT GUARANTEES YOUR PROTECTION

ALICO is committed to delivering innovative Accident and Sickness, and Life coverage at costs that are extremely competitive and value-oriented. For more than 25 years ALICO has provided the finest products to some of the Gulf's most distinguished citizens. ALICO is also a subsidiary of one of the foremost international insurance organisations in the entire world: American International Group (AIG), operating in 135 countries with over \$60 billion in assets.

BENEFITS PAYABLE IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER INSURANCE

THE ANSWERS TO YOUR MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS:

Q. Are there exceptions?

A. Just like every insurance plan, there are exceptions to keep its costs down. Here are the few exceptions: Suicide or self-inflicted injuries, war, hernia and congenital anomalies.

Q. Do I need a Medical Examination To Apply?

A. No, you don't need a medical examination if you can sincerely answer "No" to the few easy health questions.

Q. Why Do I Have To Act Now?

A. Because this is a limited time offer expiring on **October 31, 1989**. You will save on the premium, since there will be no surcharge regardless of your occupational classification and a chance to save 30% if you choose the 5 Year Single Premium.

Q. How Can I Apply?

A. It's easy. Just fill in the Reservation Form, answering few simple questions, detach and mail it to ALICO along with your first premium. It will be processed immediately.

My Reservation for ALICO's "Lifetime Income Plan"

Yes, I want the ALICO Lifetime Income Plan Policy.

My Name (Proposed Insured): First _____ Last _____

Occupation: _____ Date of Birth: _____

My Address: P.O. Box: _____ Tel: _____ City: _____

My Beneficiary: _____ Relationship: _____

My Spouse's Name (if to be insured): _____

Occupation: _____ Date of Birth: _____

My Spouse's Beneficiary: _____ Relationship: _____

Confidential health questions for all applicants:

1. Are you or your spouse suffering from any disease or have any functional impairment or receiving any treatment? YES NO

If Yes, explain: _____

2. Have you or your spouse been treated or told you have diabetes, abnormal blood pressure, any disorder or disease of the heart, lung, kidney, cancer or any other disease or injury? YES NO

If Yes, explain: _____

3. Mention other Policy Numbers you hold with ALICO: _____

4. Mode of Payment: 5 Years Annual Semi-Annual

5. Plan selected: For myself plan _____ For my spouse plan _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

MAIL YOUR RESERVATION FORM, ALONG WITH YOUR FIRST PREMIUM, BEFORE THE EXPIRY DATE OF October 31, 1989.



Kuwait: P.O. Box 669 Area Code 13007, Tel: 2442542-2442517, Safat, Kuwait
Saudi - Arabia: P.O. Box 58437 Tel: 4830059
Bahrain: P.O. Box 20281, Tel: 530136 2746011, Manama
Qatar: P.O. Box 913, Tel: 482392, Doha
Sultanate of Oman: P.O. Box 7894, Tel: 597315 598768 542646, Muscat
UAE: Tel: 212800 524311, Dubai
UAE: Tel: 336100 334428, Abu Dhabi
UAE: Tel: 613890, Al Ain